Birmingham Residence Bias Ruled Out By Federal Judge

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-26-46

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Municipally-sponsored residential segregation in Alabama was hard hit this week as a federal district judge here declared a Tarrant City Jim Crow property ordinance unconstitutional.

Two other residential segregation cases, both involving the Jim Crow Birmingham zoning law, remain on the federal calendar here. In all cases, the law, which defines separate zones in which whites and Negroes may own property, is under attack.

The far-reaching anti-segregation decision handed down Tuesday by Federal District Judge Clarence Mullins followed the contention of attorneys for the plaintiff that the Tarrant City zoning ordinance was discriminatory to Negroes because the law was adopted after the property has been purchased for a Negro residential development. The city regulation prohibited Negroes from living in Oak Lawn, a subdivision in Tarrant City.

In one of the other cases Mrs. Alice P. Allen, represented by Atty. Arthur D. Shores, asks $5,000 damages against the City of Birmingham for zoning a lot she owned as prohibitive to Negroes.

A third suit filed by two white women asks that a city ordinance preventing Negroes from living on property owned by the plaintiffs five blocks from Smithfield, a Negro housing development, be declared unconstitutional.

Birmingham, Ala., News
Aug. 25, 1946

Zoning Law Changes Aimed At Improving Race Relations Here

An amendment to Birmingham's zoning laws designed to maintain segregation of the races while at the same time eliminating causes of racial friction has just been adopted by the City Commission.

The newly adopted ordinance, as did the old zoning statutes, maintains A-1 and B-1 residential districts for white occupancy, and B-1 and B-2 residential districts for Negro occupancy.

Heretofore, districts zoned commercial, light industrial and heavy industrial sections have been open to both white and Negro residential use.

The new ordinance prohibits Negro residential occupancy in commercial and light industrial districts within 300 feet of either an A-1 or B-1 (white) residential district. It also prohibits white residential occupancy in commercial and light industrial districts within 300 feet of a B-1 or B-2 (Negro) residential district.

However, the above mentioned restriction of Negro occupancy does not apply to property already owned or occupied by Negroes for residential purposes and the above-mentioned restriction on white occupancy does not apply to property already owned or occupied by white persons for residential purposes.

City Atty. J. H. Willis, who prepared the amended ordinance at the suggestion of the City Zoning Board, described the newly adopted statute as "an extension of the non-discriminatory race segregation policy of the city for the purpose of improving racial relations."

59 1946 California

Narrator Of 'Negro Soldier' Refused Hotel Elevator Ride

HOLLYWOOD — (Pacific Press Syndicate) — A $5000 damage suit against the Ambassador Hotel, charging racial discrimination growing out of the refusal of permission to ride a passenger elevator in the swanky hostelry was filed this week by Carlton Moss, well-known Hollywood writer and lecturer.

Moss, who is best known for his work as author and narrator of the Signal Corps film, "The Negro Soldier," which was released two years ago, seeks $2,500 general damages and $2,500 punitive damages.

According to the complaint, Moss, in company with another friend, on May 8, made a business call on Mrs. Louis Kamsley, a guest at the hotel.

No trouble was encountered when they rode up, but on the return trip a short while later, Mr. Moss was told by an excited operator that he wouldn't be allowed to board the elevator under any circumstances.

When Moss phoned down to the desk asking the cause of this, he was informed by the manager, George F. Harris, after a lengthly run-around, that he could walk down if he desired but that it was "against the policy of the hotel to carry Negroes on the passenger elevators."

CARLTON MOSS

Moss is basing his suit on voilation of Section 51 and 52 of the California Civil Code which prohibit racial descrimination in public places. Katz, Gallagher and Margolis law firm is representing Moss.

DOCTOR WAGES FIGHT TO KEEP HOME—Dr. DeWitt A. Buckingham (right), with the U. S. Army from April, 1942, to March, 1945, has been ordered by the Claremont Improvement Club, Inc., to vacate his home (left) in Berkeley, Calif. The home was reported purchased at a cost of $20,000. The improvement club contends the doctor, who has established a practice in Oakland, violated a restrictive covenant clause when he purchased the edifice at 22 Bridge Road. In a letter to the improvement club, Dr. Buckingham warned that he and his family will live in the house and that he will fight any effort to force him to vacate the premises. He also reminded that he fought for democracy in the Army and will do so on the home front.—Joseph Photos.

Negroes Cite U. N. Charter In Residential-Area Suit

Hollywood, Oct. 2 (UP)—Three prominent Negro entertainers today cited United Nations Charter guarantees as giving them the right to live in a once exclusively white district.

Actresses Hattie McDaniel and Louise Beavers, singer Ethel Waters, and more than 30 other Negro property owners appealed to the State Supreme Court to permit them to live in the fashionable West Adams District.

Declaring the United Nations Charter guaranteed them against racial discrimination, the property owners through their attorneys asked the court not to reverse a lower-court ruling in their favor.

Racial Clause Held Illegal.

"The U. N. Charter is a treaty which has the effect of law," attorney Loren Miller said.

Eight white property owners brought the case before the highest State court in an attempt to reverse a decision of Superior Judge Thurmond Clark who ruled December 7, 1945, that the racial clause in deeds was unconstitutional.

Attorney Kenneth Kearney, representing the white property owners, contended the restrictive covenant was constitutional because it was based on tradition and the right of private contract.

The Supreme Court took the case under submission.

Win First Round

COLES MOVE INTO NEW HOME

LOS ANGELES.—Pending final legal determination to enforce a restrictive covenant concerning the property, Mrs. Nat (King) Cole was permitted last week to occupy her recently purchased residence at 1977 West Twenty-first Street. The action followed the dissolution of the temporary restraining order previously issued by Superior Judge Henry M. Willis.

By stipulation of Mrs. Cole's attorney, Loren Miller, and attorneys representing the plaintiffs, the matter was placed off the calendar last Monday.

The final case is expected to be heard next fall along with those of ten other families in the same tract who are held to be in violation of a restrictive covenant entered into by property owners of the district in 1937.

The district in question is a well kept residential section almost adjacent to the famed "Blueberry Hill" district, where Hattie McDaniel, Louise Beavers, Ben Carter, Sid Dones, Norman O. Houston and other noted personalities live.

Somewhat handicapped by ill-health following a recent appendectomy operation and the absence of her famed husband in New York, Mrs. Cole, with the assistance of friends actually moved into her residence Wednesday afternoon.

Seek To Keep Pasadena, Calif. "Lily-White"

LOS ANGELES.—(ANP) — City officials of Pasadena have employed racial restrictive covenants to keep Pasadena "lily-white," according to a boast last week by Frank Clough, South Pasadena's city attorney.

"We do not have any Negroes," he said, "nor do we have any other non-caucasian people living in South Pasadena. To insure the continuance of this policy, several years ago the city council instructed the city attorney to draw up restrictive clause and insert it into all properties coming into the possession of the city."

Clough admitted that the council had not passed an ordinance barring minority groups but had bowed to the will of an organization called South Pasadenans. This action is provided for those who by

"Although these actions are entitled as though they were between private litigants this is not really the fact. Whole sections of the

Clarence A. Linn, assistant attorney general, and D. O. McGovney, law professor at the university of California and Kenny's special advisor, also signed the brief with Kenny.

The brief was filed in the famed Sugar Hill cases which are set for

In setting forth the reason for filing the brief, the attorney general points out:

Among occupants of homes in that area and involved in the cases are actresses Hattie McDaniel, Louise Beavers and Ethel Waters and other well known business and professional persons.

The brief was presented is the real property lying between Adams and Washington boulevards and between LaSalle street and Western avenue.

Race Covenants Branded Illegal

LOS ANGELES — (Pacific Press Syndicate) — Attorney General Robert W. Kenny this week filed a brief in the California supreme court urging that body to forbid enforcement of race re-

subterfuge or otherwise secure, or strictive covenants on the ground attempt to occupy, property or land that such enforcement is violative by "passing for white" or similar of the fourteenth amendment of false pretenses the U. S. constitution.

California

59 1946

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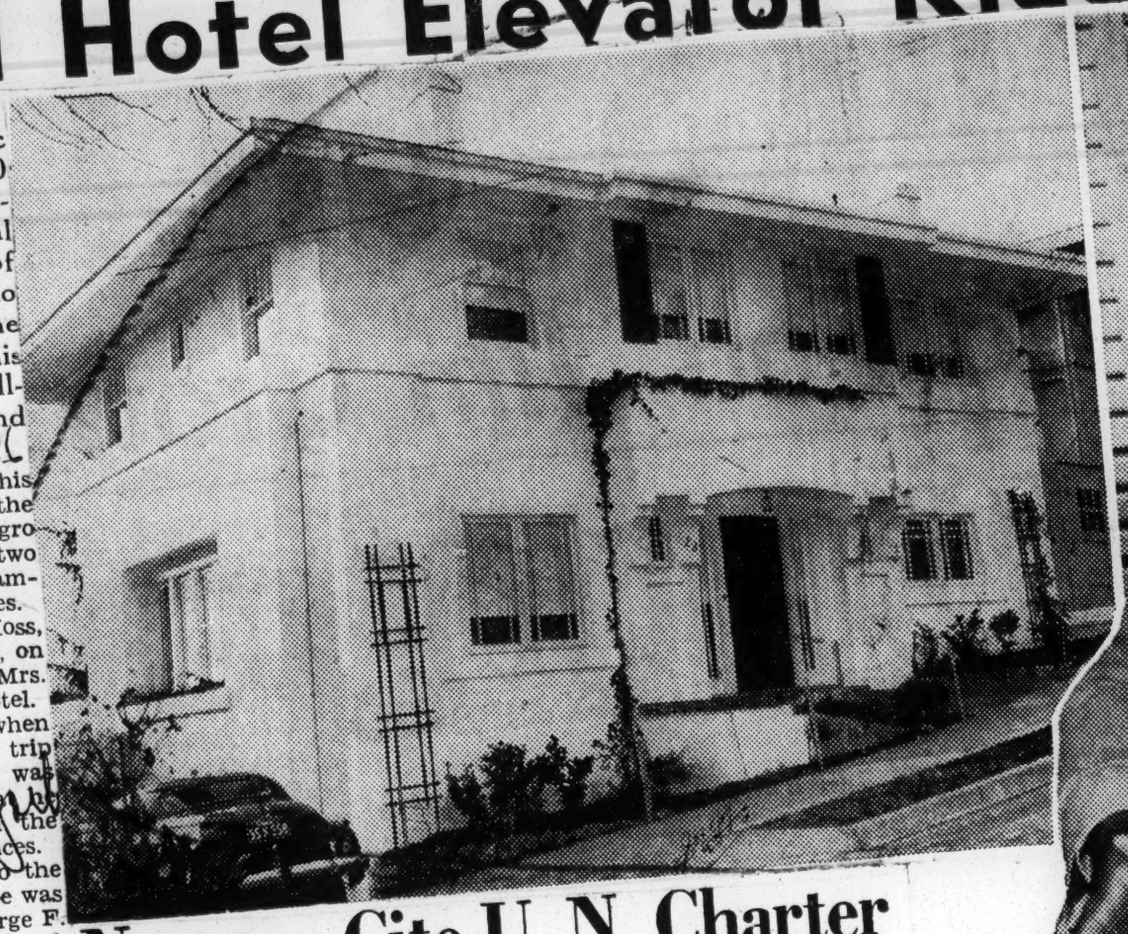

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Attorney Kenneth Kearney, representing the white property owners, contended the restrictive covenant was constitutional because it was based on tradition and the right of private contract.

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Seek To Keep Pasadena, Calif. "Lily-White"

LOS ANGELES.—(ANP) — City officials of Pasadena have employed racial restrictive covenants to keep Pasadena "lily-white," according to a boast last week by Frank Clough, South Pasadena's city attorney.

"We do not have any Negroes," he said, "nor do we have any other group, including people living in South Pasadena. To insure the continuance of this policy, several years ago the city attorney to draw up a restrictive clause and insert it into all property deeds in the city. he city council instructed the city attorney said. Membership fees in the Clough admitted that the covenant discloses that the only non-cauca cil had not passed an ordinance but had caucasians permitted to live in barring minority groups but have South Pasadena are servants. Legal cou bowed to the will of an organiza- action is provided for those who by

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Clarence A. Linn, assistant attorney general, and D. O. McGovney, law professor at the university of California and Kenny's special advisor, also signed the brief.

In setting forth the reason for filing the brief, the attorney general points out:

"Although these actions are entitled as though they were private litigants this is not really the fact. Whole sections of the city are to be effected by the decision in the litigation. Some people, including a number arranged in groups, have a restrictive clause inserted in deeds of 85 per cent of all the land in the city. he said. Membership fees are $5, which is for the organization and operating expense of recording and enforcing the racist conspiracy.

One clause in the restrictive covenant discloses that the only non-caucasians permitted to live in South Pasadena are servants. Legal action is provided for those who by

The brief was presented is the real property lying between Adams and Washington boulevards and between LaSalle street and Western avenue.

Among occupants of homes in that area and involved in the cases are actresses Hattie McDaniel, Louise Beavers and Ethel Waters and other well known business and professional persons.

THEY CAN MOVE IN—Nat (King) Cole's spacious California stucco home, located at 1877 West Twenty-first Street in Los Angeles, is the center of a restrictive covenant court battle. A temporary injunction preventing them from occupying the property was dissolved last week pending final legal determination to enforce the covenant, and Mrs. Cole moved into the home last Wednesday afternoon. The famed musician and his wife, pictured above, purchased the house for an estimated $20,000, and have since spent several thousand more redecorating and furnishing the place.—Earl Griffin photo.

Calif. Citizens Cite UN Charter in Covenant

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-12-46

HOLLYWOOD — Citing the United Nations Charter as a guarantee of their right to live unrestricted anywhere in the world, Hattie McDaniel, Louise Beavers, Ethel Waters and 30 other citizens here have appealed to the State Supreme Court to maintain their homes in the West Adams district.

After hearing arguments presented in the cases, Oct. 2, the judges retired to ponder the evidence pending the handing down of a decision.

The property owners, through their attorney, Loren Miller, have asked the Supreme Court not to reverse a lower court ruling in their favor.

Seek Reverse Decision

Eight white property owners brought the case before the high court in an attempt to reverse a decision of Superior Court Judge Thurmond Clark, who ruled on Dec. 7, 1945, that the racial clause was unconstitutional.

The attorney for the white property owners contended that the restrictive clause was constitutional because it was based on tradition and the right of private contract.

the "white corner" this week as superior court judge Henry M. Willis issued an order preventing the couple's occupancy until the trial testing the restrictive covenant is settled.

Despite the arguments of defense attorney John McTernan that the covenant was not effective because of several technicalities, the jurist said he could find no invalidating features in restrictions which bar Negroes from the Arlington Heights district. In the order-to-show-cause hearing, McTernan also challenged the legality of the covenant under the 13th amendment to the Constitution.

Chase, former state lightheavyweight champion, expressed disappointment at the ruling. He said he and his wife, who plays the role of "Birdie" on the "Great Gildersleeve", a network radio show, had hoped to occupy the house this week.

Jack Chase, wife lose first round

The Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.

Sat. 9-21-46

First round in the court fight of boxer Jack Chase and his wife, Lillian Randolph, radio and screen actress, to live in their home at 3527 W. Adams blvd., was lost to

KEEP SMILING—Actress Lillian Randolph smiles, perhaps encouragingly at boxer-husband Jack Chase, to keep up their spirits following a setback this week in their fight to occupy their West Adams home, which white neighbors would bar to them.

Calif. Dentist Loses 1st Round in Eviction Case

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

LOS ANGELES—Latest victim of the restrictive covenant drive, Dr. H. Claude Hudson, dentist and Howard University graduate, lost the first round in his fight to retain his home at 1230 S. Van Ness Ave., when the court rejected a demurrer seeking to quash a suit for his eviction.

Sat. 8-17-46

Cal. Legion Fights Hotel Prejudice

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

SAN FRANCISCO — An organized fight against segregation and discrimination stopped the Tuesday business sesson of the California American Legion convention when it was revealed that three local hotels had discriminated against colored delegates, one apparently in collusion with the Legion housing committee.

Dissatisfied with a weak apology read by Everett M. Linder, convention committee chairman, those opposed to segregation caucused for a resolution condemning hotel discrimination and instructing the housing committee to accord the same accommodations to all delegates and the Legion to blacklist any hotel refusing to take them.

Sat. 8-31-46

Los Angeles delegates suspected discrimination when they received a letter dated Aug. 7, from Frank L. Hibbard, housing committee chairman, canceling the Oxford Hotel reservations for members of the Benjamin J. Bowie Post which had been made through Adjutant George W. Burleson, and transferring them to Hotel Scaggs, a colored hotel.

On arrival, the delegates discovered that:

1. Rooms had been allocated to other delegates at the Oxford Hotel after theirs had been canceled;
2. Hotel Mark Twain had denied admittance to Nathaniel Finney, delegate from a mixed Post in Cerced, although reservations had been made in advance for the whole delegation by Commander Dan Stewart, white;
3. Olympic Hotel denied admission to Edison McDaniel and Hamilton Ponder, delegates fram the Edgar Allan Ponder Post in Riverside.

A motion to blacklist the discriminating hotels was blocked sent to committee.

Los Angeles delegates from the Benjamin J. Bowie Post are Henry H. Green, Augustus C. Moody, Paul C. Smith, Desota Wyatt and Lesley J. Holmes.

Restrictions may part mixed couple

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.

Sat. 12-7-46

A restrictive covenant, forcing the eviction of one couple and another Negro whose wife is white, was upheld in a decision Tuesday by superior judge Pat R. Parker. The decision permanently enjoins Negroes from living in property at 1357 W. 37th pl.

Forced to move by the judge's decision are Mr. and Mrs. Ira Thomas and Riley Butler, who owns the house. Butler's white wife, Mildred is not affected by the covenant.

The action to force the eviction was brought by William R. Cavett, 1382 W. 37th pl.; Mrs. Elizabeth F. Palmer, 1374 W. 37th pl:; and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Russo, 1368½ W. 37th pl., who argued that the value of their property was being lowered because of the presence of Negroes.

Maurice Goodstein, attorney for the Butlers and Thomases, had argued in court that "such action would tend to split up the marital relationship and the home."

"It would work great hardship to deny Riley the right to use of the premises and allow it to his wife because of their difference in color."

Goodstein argued that the neighborhood already includes many Negro families. Goodstein said the house on the street in back of the Butler apartment is also occupied by Negroes. They were not included in the suit.

Los Angeles, Calif.

The restrictive covenant referred to was drawn up in 1922. It covers the area included by Exposition blvd., Normandie ave., W. Jefferson, and 37th pl.

Sat. 12-7-46

RACIAL: Caucasians Only

Newsweek

To Dr. DeWitt A. Buckingham, California seemed full of postwar promise. The Army medical captain, a Negro, decided against returning to his Mississippi practice when his three years' military service ended in March 1945. Instead he opened an office in Oakland, joined the visiting staff of Henry Kaiser's Permanente Hospital, and bought a finely landscaped $20,000 home in the wealthy Claremont district of Berkeley.

There the young surgeon ran into difficulties. Although his home town of Meridian, Miss., had let him live in a white neighborhood, the Claremont Improvement Club, Inc., didn't want to. Harking back to a 1928 property owners' "covenant" restricting the occupancy of the region to persons of "pure Caucasian blood" (domestic servants excluded), seventeen club members sued to oust Buckingham and his wife. The couple could own their home, the plaintiffs insisted, but not live in it.

The doctor promptly took up the challenge. Last week his attorney, Bertram Edises, member of the law firm which fought the deportation of CIO leader Harry Bridges, prepared demurrers testing the constitutionality of the "covenant." If necessary, the lawyer warned, he would bring anthropologists to court to prove the term "pure Caucasian" a myth. Buckingham, encouraged by dozens of letters and neighborly visits proffering support, declared: "I am not at all aware that I should ask the permission of the Claremont Improvement Club before I enjoy the rights and privileges of a country for which I have proved willing to risk my life."

Doctor Fights Eviction Suit

By ALBERT WASHINGTON

BERKELEY, Calif. — Six white property owners, and the Claremont Improvement Club filed suit last week against Dr. DeWitt A. Buckingham and his wife, Mamie, in an effort to evict them from the home he bought last January.

Dr. Buckingham, formerly a captain in the Army Medical Corps for three years, told the AFRO that he purchased the property from Dr. Benjamin Bodney, white optometrist.

The plaintiffs charge that the physician and the previous owner of the home violated a restrictive covenant which forbids residence in the Claremont area of persons "not of pure Caucasian blood."

No "Pure Race"

Attorneys for the club contend that if Dr. Buckingham continues to live in the house he may lose title to the property, but Bertram Edises, white, the physician's attorney, scoffed at the suit.

He said the restrictive covenant clause is inherently unenforceable; that there is no such thing as "pure Caucasian blood;" that continental migration of tirbes and peoples throughout all history has intermingled all types, so that anthropologists no longer believe there is any "pure" race.

Kenneth Ferguson, white attorney for the club and complaining property owners, said it was not a matter of race or color, but of economics.

Baltimore, Md.

Neighbors Offer Aid

He declared that everybody knows property values go down when colored people move into a "white neighborhood," and property owners have a right to protection from such loss.

3-9-46

Dr. Buckingham revealed, however that all his neighbors are not in favor of the suit, declaring that:

"Many of my neighbors have visited me and volunteered help to fight the suit. I expect some organized effort. I am not going to move, and I'll fight it until the last!"

Medical Affiliations

He is a member of the surgical staff at Permeaente Foundation, Kaiser Hospital, Alameda County Medical Association, the Medical Association of California, and the American Medical Association.

Mrs. Buckingham is a member of the Women's auxiliary of these organizations.

Covenant Signers' Race Questioned

Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

By RALPH MATTHEWS

SAN FRANCISCO.—A test in reverse of the restrictive covenants will be carried to the Supreme Court if necessary by Mrs. Horace Fong, blonde wife of a Chinese veteran, who is suing her neighbors for trying to oust her from her home in Oakland.

3-29-46

Bringing suit in the Alameda County Superior Court, Mrs. Fong charges 15 of her neighbors, identified as John Does, with violating Proclamation, the principles of the Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Atlantic Charter and the moral laws of the United States.

Her morality charge is based on the fact that the neighbors are allegedly trying to break up her marriage by stipulating that she may live in her $20,000 home, but her husband cannot because of his race.

Proof by Signers Asked

She introduces a new issue in law by demanding that her neighbors, who are signers of a covenant permitting occupancy to "Caucasians only" prove each and every one that they are Caucasians.

This she brands aas a nebulous term and charges cannot be contractually enforced unless they can prove that either they or their ancestors were inhabitants of the Caucasian Mountains..

Plans Exact Classification

Mrs. Fong also states that she has employed a private detective, William V. Pennington, famed in ferreting out evidence in divorce cases, to trace the racial ancestry of all of her neighbors.

She promises to fill in their names later, classifying each in accordance with her findings as "Caucasian," "elite Caucasian," "American citizen," "Master Race Citizen" and so forth.

She describes herself as an American citizen of white complexion and blonde hair and her husband as an American citizen of copper-colored skin and black hair.

Sat 4-20-46

Cites Indian Act

She places the burden of proof on her neighbors to determine whether her husband is a Chinese or an Indian, because under an old California law Chinese were included under the Indian Act.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This was the outgrowth of a famous case in whic hthe only witness to a notorious murder was a Chinese.

[However, because Chinese had no status in law, a special piece of legislation was passed by the State of California, making Chinese Indians so this witness could qualify].

If her husband is an Indian under the statute, Mrs. Fong declares that he has more of a right to live where he pleases than any of her neighbors because he is an original American.

No Bias in Restaurant

Fong operates a restaurant, "The Confucius," and is a wounded World War veteran, having served in the Navy.

She points out that her husband makes no distinction among his neighbors in his restaurant and serves them all alike without inquiring into their racial origin.

Mrs. Fong's suit is directed against the members of the Oak Knoll Improvement Association, who she charges have raised from $3,000 to $5,000 to force her husband's eviction, even to the point of offering to find her another home.

The president of the club is reported to have said its action would not be altered by the Fong's court complaint.

The plan to carry the dispute before the UN was proposed by Melvin M. Belli, San Francisco attorney, retained by the Yongs to fight the ouster proceedings. A telegram has been forwarded to the Security Council asking that the case be placed on its agenda.

Endangers World Peace

Belli insisting that the position of the Oak Knoll Improvement Club fostered racial discrimination and "endangered world peace," quoted paragraphs of his complaint to the UN, asserting:

"The complaint alleges that the so-called covenant (club restrictive agreement) is a racial discrimination covenant solely in that it permits so-called 'non-caucasians' to reside on the property provided they are servants but do not own property.

Sat 4-20-46

"They may live on the property if they work for the so-called 'caucasians' but they cannot live on it if they do not work. In this regard the complaint alleges that said covenant violates the Emancipation Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, the Constitution of the United States of America, the 'One World' of Wendell Willkie, and the Atlantic Charter."

WHO IS A CAUCASIAN?

Pittsburg Courier

Pittsburg, Pa.

Former Army Medic Will Challenge White Neighbors in Restrictive Covenant Suit

Sat 3-2-46

BERKELEY, Calif.—Members of the Claremont Improvement Club Inc., might have to prove that they are of pure Caucasian blood if they insist on conducting a court fight to force a colored family to vacate a home in the swank Claremont district.

Club members, in bringing the suit, declare Dr. DeWitt A. Buckingham of 22 Bridge Road, a former captain of the U. S. Army Medical Corps, violated a restrictive covenant by purchasing a home in the exclusive district from Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin M. Brundney. Dr. Buckingham already has been summoned to appear in court for the initial hearing.

ARE THEY PURE?

The clause in the restrictive covenant, which the club members claim the former Army officer violated, reads in this wise: "No part of said lands shall ever be used or occupied by any person or persons of other than pure Caucasian blood."

Through his attorney, Atty. Bertram Edises, Dr. Buckingham countered by insisting that white people residing in the plush district prove that they are pure Caucasians. Said the attorney:

"We can bring anthropologists into court to prove that there is no such thing as 'pure Caucasian.' Due to cross-breeding and intermingling there are only racial types and certain dominant characteristics in people.

COUNTER-SUITS MENTIONED

"I believe we have counter-suits here against all residents of the Claremont district . . . I would like to bring these people into court and have them prove that they are complying with the rule—that they are pure Caucasian."

Attorneys of the club declared: "It was not a question of color nor whether Negroes are good or bad. It is a question of the economic protection of the property. It is up to the Improvement Club to protect these values."

Dr. Buckingham and members of his family occupy a nine-room house valued at $19,000.

The restrictive covenant dates back to 1906 and the Claremo Club suit is co-signed by seventeen other residents of the swank district.

MOST NEIGHBORS FRIENDLY

It was brought out this week that not all residents of the swank neighborhood are opposed to the Buckingham family owning a home in the so-called lily-white area. Few letters from cranks have reached the Buckinghams and Brudneys, but most letters from white residents of the Claremont district have been of the heart-warming type, many of the writers offering support.

Sat 3-16-46

This is typical of most of the letters received by the doctor:

"I am writing as a neighbor to welcome you to our district and to offer our services if there is anything my husband and I can do to help you . . ."

Another writer said: "I just want to let you know that I'm behind you 100 per cent . . ."

Wrote a friendly wit: "I am white—I think—but I'm on your side."

THREE YEARS WITH 93RD

The Buckinghams, who have no children, moved into the swank district Jan. 22. The Improvement Club contacted the doctor in February and he replied by saying "It is my intention to occupy the property."

Dr. Buckingham, first Negro appointed to the surgical staff of Permanente Hospital in Oakland, is a Meharry College graduate, and served three years with the Ninety-third Infantry Division during World War II.

Calls Chinese Mate An American Indian

Pittsburgh Courier

Fighting Restrictive Covenant

OAKLAND, Calif.—Charging "conspiracy for race prejudice and race discrimination" . . . and asking that they be restrained from ousting her and her Chinese-American husband from their $20,000 home . . . Mrs. Ann Fong, 26, "an American citizen of white complexion and blonde hair" . . . last week stitution, the spirit of Atlantic Charter, the Emancipation Proclamation filed an injunction suit against and a treaty with the Indians.

Sat. 5-25-46

fifteen of her neighbors in the Oakmation Knoll residential district.

Mrs. Fong charged that the conspiracy was "so nebulous templated action to oust them is and meaningless that it is a contractually unenforceable word."

violative of the Constitution of the The Supreme Court held in 1854, United States, the California Con- In the suit filed in Alameda County Superior Court, Mrs. Fong declared the defendants have circulated letters claiming Fong, a quois Nations Treaty and may more entitled to live on the land than defendants."

Mrs. Fong, by virtue of a 99-year-old California Supreme Court decision, an American Indian, that this decision is in full force and effect and that efforts to oust him "will violate the 1796 Iroquois Nations Treaty and may more entitled to live on the land than defendants."

According to the State Bar Association, a series of tests will be used in the complaint, to determine if a person is a "Caucasian."

The complaint also declared the defendants to and that Horace Fong, therefore, be taken of the being an American Indian, is much certain "their claims to being" men-

SUPREME COURT SAYS "CHINESE ARE INDIANS"

The Supreme Court held in 1854, the suit said, "that a Chinese is not a person of a 92-year-old California decision, an American Indian, that this decision is in full force and effect She also asked that subpoenas and that Horace Fong, therefore, be taken of the defendants to as- being an American Indian, is much certain, "their claims to being men- Treaty and may more entitled to live on the land than defendants." war with the Indians."

According to the State Bar Association, a series of tests will be

made this summer, as to the legality of restrictive residential covenants, which have been fought over so frequently during the past year.

STATE COURT TO HEAR COVENANT CASES

The report says, at present, there are five such appeals on file before the State Supreme Court, all developing from unfavorable verdicts against Negro residents who had bought homes in districts later declared to be restricted to whites.

Carleton Moss sues Ambassador hotel

Attorneys representing Carleton Moss, author of "The Negro Soldier", filed suit against the Ambassador hotel corp. and its manager, George F. Harris, last week, charging violation of the state civil rights law.

The suit alleges that the script writer was refused admittance to a hotel elevator because of his race and asks $5,000 general and punitive damages. Moss' counsel is Vic Kaplan, of Katz, Gallagher and Margolis.

Immediate Neighbors Dent Restrictive Covenant Suit

LOS ANGELES (ANP)—"If the neighbors next door don't object to colored residents, then why should other whites?" reasoned Judge Henry Willis of Superior Court last week.

Hence, through this technicality involving the authenticity of the plaintiff's signatures, a suit to enforce a restrictive covenant on Joughin tract, in the vicinity of Arlington and West Adams Aves., was expected to be thrown out of court when it comes to trial.

The defendant is Thomas P. Gordon, and the complaint was filed in the names of Mrs. Bena Mae Barrow and John Klovis, neighbors of Mr. Gordon. Mrs. Klovis declared that neither she nor her husband had signed the covenant and they were perfectly content with Gordon as a neighbor.

San Francisco Churches Hit Restrictive Covenants

Pamphlet Issued by Interracial Council Terms Proposed Ouster an Affront to Christ Himself

By ALBERT WASHINGTON

SAN FRANCISCO — "That Christ Could Not Live in the So-called 'All-white' Residential Sections," is the theme of a pamphlet condemning residential "restrictive covenants against non-Caucasians, recently issued by the Interracial Commission of the San Francisco Council of Churches.

Heading the message is the challenging question, "Could Jesus Live in Your Neighborhood?"

Restriction Un-Christian

Distributed through the associated churches of the council, the pamphlet points out that residential segregation directed against non-Caucasians increases racial tensions, attacks the foundations of democracy and is fundamentally un-Christian.

Readers are asked to sign the following commitment:

"I pledge that in no way will I legally bind any property by signing restrictive covenants directed against persons because of race, color or creed."

The pamphlet was prepared by Rev. Alfred G. Fisk, white, chairman of the commission, in cooperation with Rev. Hughbert H. Landram, white, executive secretary of the San Francisco Council of Churches and Rev. William Turner of the Community Baptist Church.

Would Oust Foreign-Born

Circulation of the pamphlet came coincidentally with the disputes over efforts of white home owners to oust by court order a Filipino and a Chinese family from their homes on Bridgeview Drive, where restrictions forbid residence to "persons other than those of white, Caucasian race."

Opposition to the ouster move, which has been brought to the attention of the Council for Civic Unity by the Portola Heights Neighborhood Committee, an organization formed to battle enforcement of the racial restrictions, was approved by Rev. Landram of the Council of Churches.

The Interracial Church Council pamphlet emphasizes:

"Jesus was dark (a Non-Caucasian, says E. Stanley Jones). He could not live in the better sections of San Francisco today. Only the limited slum-like areas would be available to Him."

The pamphlet further states that the economic costs of "ghettos" to the rest of the community are extravagant because of the crime, delinquency, health and hospital services, police protection, etc. which poorer areas always entail.

In addition, the pamphlet asks, "How can restrictive covenants and segregation square with the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Four Freedoms and the salute to the Flag ("liberty and justice for all")?

Proof of Insincerity

The pamphlet charges further that "restrictive covenants say to the world that we do not mean, that we do not practice, these democratic ideals."

Concluding, it charges that "if in the sight of the dominant elements of America, dark-skinned people are to be scorned, ostracized, discriminated against and suppressed, purely because of the color of their skin, then America is denying the basic precept of Christianity."

Tribunal Hears Arguments In 12 Restrictive Cases

By LAWRENCE P. LAMAR

LOS ANGELES— (NPB) —Nat (King) Cole and his wife, Nadine, were adjudged victors here Monday in bit of legal maneuvering on the part of upholders of race covenant devices designed to prevent Negroes from occupying certain pieces of property Monday, when a temporary restraining order issued by Superior Court Judge Henry M. Willis, May 8th, preventing their occupancy of property recently purchased, was allowed to go off calendar.

Cole, head of the famous King Cole Trio, began purchasing the beautiful home located at 1917 West 21st Street nearly six months ago, completed the essential steps needed to acquire ownership on May 8th. At that time, Plaintiffs Herman C. Ingalls, Margaret B. Simpson and Robert A. Hoffer obtained the restraining order to prevent occupancy of non-whites to the property in that tract.

Atty. Loren Miller, who represented the Cole's in their action to gain possession and occupancy of their home, told reporters that the victory affected nine other Negro owners of property in the tract, including A. J. (Kelley) Williams and Mitchell Miles. Cole purchased the property from Richard D. Lee, a Korean, while the latter was serving in the armed forces.

RESTRAINING ORDER

History of the case discloses that G. I. Lee purchased the property some time ago, and white covenators attempted to have him and his family ejected. On October 4, 1945, court action was instituted against Lee. While in the Army, Lee sold the property to the Coles. The temporary restraining order was issued by Judge Willis, to prevent the owners occupying the property while litigation was going on.

The case came to an abrupt halt Monday when attorneys for the various sides appeared in court and allowed the matter to go off calendar without prejudice. Atty. Miller appeared confident that lawyers for the plaintiff covenators believed their case hopeless, and quit rather than face a precedent-shattering adverse decision.

The eyes of the nation are shifting to California, where momentous decisions are being awaited by the State Supreme Court body on June 13. The high tribunal will hear 12 cases involving nearly every phase of race residential restrictions imposed upon minorities through the device of restrictive covenants.

Restrictive Covenant

KING COLE CANNOT OCCUPY NEW HOME

By HERMAN HILL, Los Angeles Bureau

LOS ANGELES—Nat (King) Cole of theatrical fame, his wife, and a Chinese Purple Heart war veteran and his family are the latest to feel the sting of racial discrimination in the form of restrictive covenants here. A temporary injunction prevents the Coles from occupying their newly purchased home at 1877 West Twenty-first Street, and Mrs. Cole is scheduled to appear Wednesday with her attorney, Loren Miller, before Superior Court Judge Henry M. Willis to petition for dissolution of the court order. Her husband is in New York currently appearing on the Kraft Music Hall radio program and at Club Zanzibar.

MILLER PLANS FIGHT

Attorney Miller will base his plea on the fact that a Chinese family, Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Lee, former owners and occupants of the Cole residence, lived there for the past four years pending a restrictive covenant court action against them. He contends that his clients should be allowed the same rights to until the case is decided.

Two suits were filed against the Lee family. The first was dissolved two years ago in the court of Superior Judge John Beardsley.

Should Judge Willis rule against the Coles' petition it would prevent King Cole and his wife from occupying their home until a trial determines the validity of the covenant which binds property to occupancy of the white race only.

The Lees moved out of the house two months ago. The Coles purchased the home and were redecorating it when the retraining order was served on them.

Following in the wake of the Cole case is the suit for eviction filed against Tommy Amer, Chinese Purple Heart veteran of 127 West Fifty-sixth Street, because he is not a Caucasian. Three white neighbors filed the suit.

SCENE OF FIERY CROSS

The Amer home is located directly across the street from the H. B. Hickersons, a Negro family on whose lawn a fiery cross was burned two weeks ago. The Amer home was purchased by the Chinese war veteran and a brother-in-law last January after they moving into his house by Judge and Broadway. Carl A. Stutsman, but after The jurist awarded an injunction and several other property owners moved into the tract.

Attorney Loren Miller, who represented the two families, said he would appeal the case.

Judge Upholds Restrictive Covenant In California

LOS ANGELES—Ruling that there was not sufficient change in the type of property ownership in the tract since a covenant was entered into in 1926 by home owners, Superior Judge Joseph W. Vickers last week upheld a race restriction covenant prohibiting others than Caucasians from occupying a home in the Fifty-fifth Street tract between Main Street and Broadway.

Defendants in the case were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Fleming and Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Lopper who had purchased homes recently and moved into the tract.

Attorney Loren Miller, who represented the two families, said he would appeal the case.

Californians Fight Restrictive Covenants

OAKLAND, Cal.—(ANP)—Fighting to uphold a covenant, which bars all non-Caucasians except servants from the area bounded by San Pablo and Los Angeles Avenues, 57th and 59th streets here, the case of Back versus Young was heard in Alameda County Superior Court Monday.

The case, instituted in April, 1945, when Carl Back and others filed against Johnnie and Elnora Young of 1062 57th Street, charges that the Youngs are living in violation of this restrictive covenant. The couple has been living in the two-flat building purchased by them in December, 1944. A white family occupies the other apartment.

Defense attorneys for the Youngs, retained by the Alameda County branch NAACP, contend that their constitutional rights will be violated if they are denied the right to live on their property.

C. L. Dellums, president of the branch, say the branch is prepared to take the case to the supreme court, if necessary. In a recent interview, Dellums declared that California should lead in destroying restrictive covenants, since it led in establishing them.

Calif. Man Faces Trial for Living in His Home

LOS ANGELES—When Henry Municipal Court had ruled that Nora Lowry, who was living in the area who had filed suit to enforce a restrictive covenant, his attorney, Crispus Wright, said last week. Hutchins was enjoined from occupying his own homeins and his family moved in.

59 1946

D. C.

White Vandals Seek To Bar Visitors From Douglass Home

Nashville Tennessee
Nashville Globe

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26— Apparently envious of the repairs and new coat of paint which the Frederick Douglass Home received recently, vandals in the all white neighborhood where the home is situated have been seeking to bar visitors from the shrine by blocking the roadway.

Only last week when a group of sightseers who had visited the home in cars attempted to leave, they found the road blocked with logs, tin cans, broken bottles, and other debris. It required nearly an hour to clear the winding road which leads to and from the crest of Cedar Hill where the Home is situated.

Also, it is reported that Douglass Home neighbors scatter tacks and broken glass along the private Douglass roadway almost every night. Picking up glass and clearing the road of obstructions has become a daily chore for the Home's maintenance force.

Fortunately, up to now the vandals have not damaged the home itself, although there is fear that window panes may be broken out at any time. It is believed that the vicious acts perpetrated against the Home are manifestations of envy of the improvements which have been made in the maintenance of the shrine. It was not until the Home was repaired and painted and the grounds improved that the neighbors began blocking the road to the Home.

Fri 3-1-46

The recent improvements made by the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association headed by Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart have made the Home easily one of the most attractive residences in southeast Washington. It stands on 14 acres atop Cedar Hill, one of the highest points in the capital. As if the builders of the pyramids had also built this grassy mound for Douglass' Home site and set it down in the all white neighborhood, the hill itself towers above every house in the community.

Glistening in its new coat of paint, the Home has become the focal point for demonstrations of racial prejudice. The Home is quite impressive. Sightseers who visited it during Negro History Week marveled at the remarkable improvements which the Association has made with the limited funds received from interested contributors.

Fri 3-1-46

During last year, the Association spent more than $4,000 on the Home. The Association is seeking to raise $100,000 to endow the Home so that the shrine of the proud Douglass will not have to continue going to the public hat in hand asking money for taxes and upkeep every year. Contributions should be sent to Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart, president of the Association. Her address is 300 Lincoln Avenue, Evansville 13, Ind.

Law Suit Seeks to Protect Owners

By JOHN A. DIAZ
(Miami Correspondent)

MIAMI, Fla.—Because he dared to exercise his birthright, his constitutional privilege of pursuing happiness by hard work and saving his money and purchasing a home for himself and family, for occupying that home he was arrested and thrown into custody of the sheriff in Miami.

This is the substance of a legal battle which may reach the United States Supreme Court, according to a story unfolded to The Courier representative last week. Needless to say, the victim is an American Negro and his wife.

JAILED BY SHERIFF

Last year Felton Coleman and his wife, Willie Mae Coleman, were arrested and jailed by the alleged orders of the sheriff of Dade County, because they had occupied their home at 2949 N. W. Fifty-first Street, near Miami, in an area illegally zoned by white people for their exclusive occupancy.

When the case was brought before Florida Circuit Judge Stanley Milledge, on Nov. 20, 1945, in a habeas corpus action, he decided in favor of the two colored defendants. In rendering the decision the learned judge said, ". . . No authority vested in the Board of County Commissioners to zone any area for the use and occupancy based on color, either by its expressed terms or by implications; that to hold that the Legislature of Florida by implication intended to vest authority in the Board of Commissioners would be to hold that they intended to pass an unconstitutional act in this respect, contrary to the provision of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, which this court will not hold that the Legislature of Florida so intended by implication."

KLANS BURN CROSS

Judge Milledge then discharged Coleman and his wife from the custody of the sheriff, and cancelled the bonds posted by Wesley E. Garrison in cash.

On Jan. 19 last, the State of Florida filed an appeal to the Supreme Court of Florida from the order of Judge Milledge.

In the meantime, prospective residents of the Brown sub-division, the section in which the alleged illegal zoning took place, and where Coleman and his wife live, can not secure building permits from the Board of County Commissioners, and therefore can not build their houses. The commissioners, it is alleged, refuse to abide by the decision of Judge Milledge. As a result, Wesley E. Garrison, wealthy white real estate operator, last Wednesday filed an injunction suit against the Board of Commissioners to restrain them from further molesting the colored property owners in Brown's sub-division, where not long ago was the scene of burning fiery crosses by the KKK's.

WHITES MOBILIZED AT MASS MEETING

The Negroes on whose behalf the injunction suit to test the constitutionality of the zoning laws has been filed are: George Alexander Williams, Annie Thomas, Belle Sally, Dan Andrews and Mathis Blue. Their homes are in the 2800 and 2900 blocks of Northwest Fifty-first Terrace, Northwest Fiftieth Street. This is in an area allegedly illegally zoned by the whites for their occupancy.

The white people, incensed by the injunction suit filed last Wednesday, called a mass meeting in the name of the Northwest Property Owners' League, "for the purpose of enlisting the aid of every home owner in Dade County in our fight to protect our homes and your homes from encroachment."

When interviewed by The Courier's representative, Mr. Garrison said that he has engaged the best lawyers available in Miami to fight this abridgment of the constitutional right to live. He said that this was not a case of colored people moving into the whites' territory but a case in which white people took the law into their own hands and mark their own zoning line.

Restrictive pacts declared illegal in Miami, Fla.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Negroes of Miami, Fla., can now live anywhere they choose in that fair resort city, at least, technically.

The Florida state supreme court ruled here last week that Dade county had no power to enact zoning laws excluding Negroes from living in any section of Miami.

The ruling upheld a Dade circuit court decision which released two Negro families, the Jack Wilsons and Felton Colemans, who were arrested for violating county zoning regulations when they brought property in a heretofore white area and took up residence.

The county had contended it deprived authority from a 1937 legislative act to exclude Negroes from any section it chose, and the Wilsons and Colemans filed suit challenging the claim.

to hold that the Legislature of Florida by implication intended to vest authority in the Board of Commissioners would be to hold that they intended to pass an unconstitutional act in this respect, contrary to the provision of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U. S. Constitution, which this court will not hold that the Legislature of Florida so intended by implicaion."

TATE FILES APPEAL

On Jan. 19, of his year, the State f Florida filed an appeal to the upreme Court of Florida from the rder of Judge Milledge in the oleman case.

The Board of Commissioners, reusing to abide by Judge Milledge's ecision in the Coleman case, deied building permits and also pernits for the installation of propty improvements to prospective egro home-owners and those aleady residing in Brownsville.

As a result of this action, Garison filed the present injunction uit, telling The Courier represenative at that time, that the case vas not a case of colored people oving into the whites' territory, ut a case in which white people ook the law into their own hands nd marked their own zoning line.

Fight Home Ban

In Miami, Florida Court

Restrictive Ordinance Violates Constitution

By JOHN DIAZ, Miami Correspondent

MIAMI, Fla.—Circuit Judge Stanley Milledge continued to mete out justice on the basis of democratic law, last Friday, when he enjoined the County Commission, here, and Cecil A. Turner, zoning director, from refusing to issue building permits to Negro property owners in the Brownsville section, a suburb of Miami.

Judge Milledge held that the ordinance setting up Negro and white sections, violates the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

He ordered the County Zoning Director to stop refusing permits for electrical installations, septic tanks or new homes to Negroes.

WHITE REALTY OPERATOR FILES SUIT

The suit was filed by Wesley E. Garrison, wealthy white real estate operator, who had filed an injunction against the Board of Commissioners last Feb. 6, seeking to restrain it from further molesting the colored property owners in Brown's sub-division (as the Brownsville area was then known).

It was in this sub-division that the Felton and Willie Mae Coleman covenant case occurred, and also the scene of burning fiery crosses by the KKK.

Last year, the Colemans were arrested and jailed on the alleged orders of the sheriff of Dade County, because they had occupied their home at 2949 Northwest Fifty-first Street, near Miami, in an area illegally zoned by white people for their exclusive occupancy.

DECISION FAVORS NEGROES

When the case was brought before this same Judge Milledge, Nov. 20, 1945, in a habeas corpus action, he decided in favor of the two colored defen

In rendering the decision, the learned judge said:

". . . No authority vested in the Board of County Commissioners to zone any area for the use and occupancy based on color, either by its expressed terms or by implications; that

ZONING LAW ARGUED IN MIAMI COURT

By JOHN A. DIAZ

MIAMI, Fla.—The hearing on the injunction suit, filed by Wesley E. Garrison, white, against County Zoning Director Cecil A. Turner, because of Turner's refusal to grant Negro residents in Browns' sub-division permits to install septic tanks, or to grant other prospective Negro home-owners permits to build houses in that area where white people object to Negroes living close to them, began, last week, in the chambers of Judge Stanley Milledge.

The case was argued at great length by Atty. Edward F. P. Brigham, representing Garrison, and attorneys for the County, George S. Okell and Rudolph Isom.

14TH AMENDMENT VIOLATED

Judge Milledge's attitude at the hearing was that the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States was involved.

Atty. Brigham maintained the position that it was the constitutionality of the County Zoning Ordnance that was being contested.

The judge stated that the Ordnance is invalid because it is unconstitutional, as it discriminates against race and color, and that the refusal to issue building and other permits to Negroes violates their Constitutional rights as citizens.

JUDGE RULES IN NEGROES' FAVOR

It was Judge Milledge who, not long ago, decided that the County had no authority to bar Negroes from living in an area claimed by whites to be their exclusive territory.

The appeal against the judge's decision is now pending before the Florida Supreme Court.

There was open speculation at the hearing as to what may happen should the judge grant the injunction, which would permit Negroes to build in the restricted area.

WILL ASK FOR POLICE PROTECTION

Counsel against the Negroes claimed that Judge Milledge would be asked to have the area policed if he should grant a restraining order against the County Commissioners, who are still refusing to issue the building permits, despite the decision of the judge who previously ruled that it was unconstitutional to arrest a Negro for living in his own house in an area in which white people claimed as theirs.

Judge Milledge declared that he was concerned, in this case, with the practicability of granting the temporary order asked for by Mr. Garrison.

The State's Attorney said that he would appeal if the judge should grant the temporary injunction against the County Commissioners.

GARRISON AND OKELL ARGUE

Outside the courtroom, The Courier's representative witnessed the argument which occurred between Garrison and Okell over the rights of Negroes in the Southland. The argument reached the point where only intervention by spectators prevented blows being struck.

Once during the proceedings, in the judge's chambers Attorney Isom used the word "n——," with this correspondent being the only Negro present.

Attorney Brigham said that he would welcome any assistance deemed necessary by Negro organizations in the event that the appeal pending before the Florida Supreme Court should be decided against the Negroes as the case would then have to be brought before the United States Supreme Court.

The injunction suit will be continued on March 6, when the final hearing is to be conducted.

The 12 very Negro-looking members of his combination, however, totted their satchels to the Dorsey, a colored hostelry where a white man would not voluntarily elect to reside.

It all started when Frank Machito brought his Afro-Cuban band here to fill a season-long engagement at the Mocamba club. The maestro, who, by his own admission, is second only to Xavier Cugat in playing Latin rhythms, exists in Miami an inflexible law that Negro artists cannot appear on along the southwest. Second answer: do not frequent the neon a white establishment, from which in white nighteries. The Mocamba avenue rialto where lights in the jewelled drink emporiums (the American variety at is definitely a white establishprotagonists of the least) are barred from bedding ment.

MIAMI, Fla.—Is an admitted Negro section of this city burn the avenue, the protag Afro-Cuban a Negro? brightest. two points of view a That is the question being heat- Since the anthropologists and more and more confused by the laws.

And to further complicate the issue there whole situation, when Machito's

Dixie Hotel Rule Admits Cuban Men

Ork Leader But Bars His Wife, M

Chicago Defender

By ENOC P. WATERS

pretty wife, Jene, dropped through town enroute to her native Cuba, it is said she lived not at the Miami hotel, but at Dorsey's to which place the brown-skin maestro hied himself to see her.

On several occasions they were seen sampling the culinary productions of Negro restaurants in definance of the state separation laws if he is white as is implied by his residing at the Miami Hotel.

Evidently cognizant of the confusion in the minds of the darker elements of the local population, Machito visited the Negro press and requested them not to discuss the matter in their columns, and under questioning, so the newsfolk say, admitted that some of his instrumentalists are American Negroes who have picked up enough of the Cuban lingo to fit very well into his orchestra.

The unauthentic Afro-Cubans, the maestro is reported to have asserted, were not detected in New York City where the band has appeared at the La Congo, the Beachcomber, the Club Cuba and the Gay Whiteway. 2-9-46

Of course, no one cared very much in New York City, but Miami is quite different.

One argument advanced to prove something which no one is clear about is that Machito has been required to pay to the lily-white musicians' local here the same monetary tariff exacted from white musical organizations.

Wiseacres soon blasted that argument by pointing out that though local Negro musicians are barred from membership in the union here, all Negro bands coming into Miami are required to fatten the local union kitty.

So the argument goes merrily on, and Machito continues to play nightly at the Mocamba.

Florida Supreme Court Afro-American Bans Zoning Regulations Baltimore Md

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Ordinances which restrict certain sections of a city to citizens on the basis of racial identity were ruled unconstitutional last week by the Florida Supreme Court in a unanimous decision. 5-11-46

The decision, upholding a ruling of a Dade County Circuit Court concurred in the lower court's release of two families arrested for violation of Dade (Miami) County zoning regulations.

The regulations sought to make legal residential racial segregation. 5-11-46

Cite 1937 Statute

County officials had contended that they had derived authority for the zoning regulations from a 1937 legislative act excluding colored persons from any section it chose.

Without ruling on the validity of such a statute, the supreme court said the 1937 act gave the Dade Board of County Commissioners specifically the power to regulate and restrict the height and number of buildings, lot sizes, population density and the number of junkyards and trailer areas in zoned sections.

The county, after passage of the fact, had adopted a resolution segregating areas which could be occupied by colored and white persons. Sat 5-11-46

Two colored families, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Felton Coleman, had purchased property in an area zoned for white persons and took up residence.

They were arrested and brought suit challenging the validity of the county ordinance.

Miami, Fla. Herald
July 9, 1946

Club Protests Negro Slum Riddance Plan

A threatened "pushing around" of Miami's downtown negro residents under slum clearance plans was charged Monday by the Miami Junior Woman's club.

Local results are the club's chief concern. But its action could echo nationally.

The Miami organization challenged the bill pending before congress which would provide authority for condemnation of slum areas.

It charged that "unnecessary and undesirable powers" would be given "designated authorities, enabling them to remove minority groups to distant areas, regardless of the desires of those removed, or the public in general."

City and county governments also were charged with "a feeling . . . that the negroes should be forcibly removed to distant areas."

The club acted after getting a report on the congressional bill from its legislative committee, headed by Mrs. Alonzo Bliss.

Congress was called on to amend the pending bill, to provide that at least 80 per cent of residential areas condemned be devoted to residential purposes including "the same race, color or creed, at equal or lower rentals than those prevailing prior to condemnation."

Copies of the resolution, including the charges of too broad powers, were sent to Senator Claude Pepper, Rep. Pat Cannon and Rep.-elect George A. Smathers.

Dark-Skinned Americans in Search of Decent Homes

By *Albert Deutsch:*

PM. New York, N.Y.

Scores of thousands of war veterans and their families are presently experiencing the bitter frustration of failing to find a decent home to live in. If they are not getting the special consideration they deserve, they at least have the solace—small as it may seem—that they are not the victims of discrimination, that their plight is shared by millions as the result of a general housing shortage.

What these home-seeking veterans are experiencing is only a fraction of the heart-breaking humiliation and despair known for many decades to untold numbers of Americans who have tried unsuccessfully to break out of the Negro Ghetto in search of a decent place to live in. Many of our Northern cities, by tolerating and even enforcing residential segregation on the basis of skin-color have added to the basic injustice of the "peculiar institutions" of the South the shameful hyprocisy of an avowedly equalitarian North.

Lee. 5-21-46

Nowhere have I seen this problem so forcefully dramtized as it is in the current Broadway play, *On Whitman Avenue*. This play, starring Canada Lee, tells of the decent, upright family of a Negro war hero which manages momentarily to move out of the hideous slum of a Midwestern black Ghetto into a white neighborhood, only to be driven back by a combination of racial prejudice and real-estate greed. It is a telling indictment of white Christians who profess the American creed of equal rights and equal opportunities without having either the integrity or guts to practice it.

The play may not be "good theatre," as some of its critics charge. I am not competent to judge that. It is crude in spots, and its lines of development are often blurred. It presents a situation without providing an adequate answer. But I do know that it moved me deeply; it gave one the feel of what it means to be a self-respecting dark-skinned American in search of a fundamental American right and finding instead only humiliation and indignity and an order to return to a racial concentration camp. The volcanic, fist-clenching silences of Canada Lee as the Negro war veteran were eloquently human indictments of white America's toleration of an undemocratic sin.

Lee. 5-21-46

I have been reading the address of Bishop Bernard J. Sheil which keynoted the Conference for the Elimination of Restrictive Covenants held last week in Chicago under the sponsorship of the Chicago Council against Racial and Religious Discrimination. (Restrictive covenants are signed compacts between property-owners agreeing not to sell, lease or rent to Negroes or other specified racial or religious groups.) The conference was attended by 300 delegates representing organizations in eight Midwestern states. Bishop Sheil provided the answer to the problem posed in *On Whitman Avenue*.

"The time has come," he said, "to face the facts squarely. Brotherhood is but a shibboleth tossed on the wind if we are not prepared to accept the responsibilities in it.

Lee. 5-21-46

"In the hideous question of restrictive covenants we are faced with a problem that war transcends the question of democratic rights. It is one of the most basic factors mitigating against inter-racial harmony . . .

"There is a time for the exercise of the virtue of prudence. There is also a time for courageous thinking and action; but there is never a time for compromising with fundamental moral principles. Either we believed and meant what we said to the world concerning the dignity of man and the essential community of his nature, or it is a lie. If we meant it then let us, for the love of God, begin to practice it, honestly and objectively."

WOMEN VOTERS ASK RATIONING RETURN

New York

League Convention at Kansas City Also Acts on Race Discrimination in Hotels

New York Times

By BESS FURMAN

Special to

KANSAS CITY, May 1—The resumption of food rationing was advocated unanimously today by the biennial convention of the National League of Women Voters.

Miss Anna Lord Strauss, president of the league and a member of President Truman's Famine Emergency Committee favored the return to rationing in view of the world food shortage. She supported the voluntary belt-tightening measures favored by President Truman and the Secretary of Agriculture, Clinton P. Anderson.

Resolution Urging Rationing

Thurs 5-2-46

Proposed by Mrs. George Gellhorn of St. Louis, the resolution advocating a return to rationing read:

"The convention of the League of Women Voters urges the President of the United States and the Secretary of Agriculture to take every possible step to fulfill the commitments the United States has made for sending food to other countries in the next two months. The convention further urges the Government to begin now to plan for prudent management of the 1946 crop so that there will not be a recurrence of famine in the spring of 1947.

"In order to share our food with the rest of the world and at the same time assure equitable distribution of the domestic supply, the League urges the re-institution of rationing."

Action on Race Question

Mrs. Maxwell Barus, president of the New Jersey League, presented a resolution under which only those hotels which accepted all delegates without discrimination as to race would hereafter have the patronage of the league the biennial conventions. The motion was carried by voice vote.

At this convention there are two Negro delegates, Mrs. E. C. Grady of St. Louis and Mrs. Joseph Snowden, representing a unit of the Cook County, Ill., League. They are styaing with friends here, league officials said, not being able to get accommodations at the hotels where the other delegates are staying.

Thurs 5-2-46

The convention voted for delegation of armament control to the United Nations and supported international control of atomic energy along the lines of the Acheson report.

A resolution looking toward world government, introduced by Mrs. Henry De Wolf Smyth of New Jersey was defeated by a vote of 192 to 139.

U.S. Supreme Court Plays Dual Role in J.C. Housing

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Sat 5-4-46

NBA Charges That It Has Never Squarely Upheld Restrictive Pacts, But Aids Them

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A dual role has been played by the U.S. Supreme Court in the matter of segregated housing for colored Americans, the National Bar Association's journal charged in a recent issue.

It declared that "the Supreme Court of the United States has never squarely upheld the covenants, but the court has given 'aid and comfort' to them."

The journal pointed out that while the court ruled against State and municipal legislation to segregate colored people in certain parts of a community, it aided in the creation of segregated residential areas by sanctioning private restrictive covenants.

Cases Cited

"If the Supreme Court forbids States or their municipalities by legislation to restrict certain parts of a city to specified races, the court should not permit individuals to do it by contract which the courts may enforce," it was argued.

Sat 5-4-46

The journal cited two cases in emphasizing its findings—that of Buchanan vs. Warley of Louisville in 1917, when the court outlawed attempted segregation legislation, and that of Corrigan vs. Buckley here in 1926, when it indirectly approved racial restrictive covenants.

Courts should refuse to enforce restriction based on a private agreement, the NBA contends, just as they have refused to enforce a restriction based on legislation. The present Supreme Court is more likely to invalidate racial restrictive covenants than any previous court, the journal said.

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat 5-4-46

Restrictive Covenant Battle

IT IS GOOD to see the battle against the restrictive covenant gaining force throughout America. When the United States shall have shelved the restrictive covenant (segregated housing) then alone will it be possible to say, "Integration is here, or almost here."

Premier Jan Christian Smuts once made the statement that there was no Negro problem in South Africa. "We segregate our residential districts," he explained, "and once you do that everything else flows from that."

That is about the best summary of the evil of segregated housing. Once you place one group of people on one side of a community and another group on an opposite side, then they cease to know each other; then they start guessing about each other; then they worry, wonder, imagine, and whisper about each other; by now the misconceptions are numerous, and the mutual non-understanding is complete.

The South has been able to maintain its caste system primarily by its rigid method of segregating residential areas.

No Contact With Negroes

OFTEN I HEAR it stated that millions of white people are not awake to the Negro question. That is possible and understandable, for there are millions of whites, victims, in a way, of the segregation laws, who have no contact with Negroes, and all that they can know is what they are told about the Negro group, and usually they are not told good or correct things.

Curiously, in the battle against segregated housing New York has lagged far behind many other great cities. The struggle against the restrictive covenant in Chicago and Los Angeles has gone way ahead of the fight in New York

During the session of the New York State Legislature, just closed, measures attacking the restrictive covenant were introduced but nothing was done about them. The Dewey-controlled State Legislature has no interest in abolishing segregated housing.

The N.Y. State Government will not move against segregated housing until the people put up as great a howl against it as they did when

ure made have not been drawn into the battle.
t be able In fact, there is no battle.
ct on the New York Tense Sunday 5-6-46
of labor, ONE OF THE individuals in New York who is
emocratic very conversant with the seriousness of this
minority issue and active in its behalf is Dr. Alphonse
been edu- Heningburg, educational director of the Urban
and they League. He knows from some personal experi-
ences in the area where he lives how vital and

the parties of the left, the liberal Democ
segregated housing.

terrible is the need for a broad scale struggle against this evil.

The labor movement in New York and Negro representatives in the labor movement and the left wing parties have been very remiss in pursuing this issue. I think that if and when Negro leaders on the left apprise their white colleagues of the vital nature of this question, there will be something doing: but not until then.

However, the straw was broken when, at least, legislation focusing attention on segregated housing, was introduced before the State legislators.

New York is bursting with "tension areas" where Negro and white border on each other. There have been skirmishes over this question and there may be more unless liberal forces in New York intensify their self-education, and deepen community understanding about this issue, while at the same time strengthening the whole movement by demanding laws ending all legal privilege for separate housing.

Socialist convention in race relations utterance

CHICAGO—A vigorous condemnation of restrictive covenants was one of the highlights of a strong indictment of racial discrimination adopted by the Socialist Party at its national convention just concluded here.

The convention also urged passage of permanent FEPC legislation, abolition of poll taxes, white primaries and discriminatory educational requirements for voting, and urged Gov. Ben Laney of Arkansas to free Tee Davis, Negro tenant farmer serving 10 years for defending his home against illegal entry by a white sheriff.

Major race relations pronouncement of the Convention, adopted unanimously by Negro and white delegates from North and South, follows:

'The essence of Socialism is the belief that society can be run democratically by the people for the benefit of all, without regard to race, nationality, or creed. One of the worst aspects of our exploiting capitalist society is that people who share common aspirations are divided by false theories of racial superiority and prejudices against minorities.'

'For example, those who would profit both Negro and white finds the anti-Negro attitudes of many whites extremely useful. Arthur Raper and Ira Reid in "Sharecroppers All" tell of a planter who remarked, "As long as those whites keep these Negroes humble, we'll keep them both poor". Thus, a most urgent and immediate task before all workers, regardless of color, is the adoption of the permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission Bill, to aid in providing equal rights in vocational training, job placement, and wages and upgrading for Negroes and other minority groups.'

"Socialists, in their day to day work, must continue to strive for equal right for all, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry. This means in practice that Socialists fight against the poll tax, the white primary, and the numerous other devious means, such as intimidation and false educational requirements used to prevent Negroes from voting in the South; that Socialists fight for equal rights of all workers to secure training, employment and upgrading; that Socialists oppose the establishment or maintenance of racially segregated schools, parks, churches, hotels, residential areas, restaurants, or places of public amusement; that Socialists campaign against racial or religious discrimination in unions, fraternal bodies, professional associations or other organizations.'

'Particularly abominable has become residential segregation by private action in the form of the racially restricted covenant. This is practiced in varying degrees against Negroes, Jews, Japanese-Americans, and other minorities.'

'Socialists by their leadership in the fight for equal justice for minorities will build the Socialist Party as the champion of the peoples' rights.'

Loren Miller speaks in Chicago on covenants

CHICAGO — Loren Miller, Los Angeles attorney who successfully defended Negro homeowners in the "Sugar Hill" restrictive covenant case, was one of the main speakers at a two-day conference for the elimination of racially restrictive covenants sponsored last week at Hotel LaSalle and Roosevelt college here by the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination and interested groups.

Speaking before more than 200 delegates on the theme, "Race Restrictive Covenants vs. Democracy" Miller blamed state and federal courts for the widespread practice of covenants based on race.

Although the U. S. Supreme Court outlawed such pacts several years ago, "only state action" is prescribed by the 14th amendment and local and federal courts do not frown on "race restrictions imposed by subdividers or by neighborhood agreements", Miller said. The result, he declared, has been a "foundation for an American ghetto system".

RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS DO NOT BAR F. H. A. LOANS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Federal Housing Administration will not place obstacles in the way of Negroes who wish to purchase homes outside of the narrow limits of the black ghettos to which they have been heretofore confined. This statement of policy was made by Commissioner Raymond Foley.

John Robert Badger

Canadian Judge Bans Ghettos

HITLER AND EUGENE TALMADGE do it one way; bigots in the North and West do it another way. But both the direct and the indirect way of segregating a people accomplish the same purpose. Both ways establish the ghetto.

The direct way of establishing the ghetto is to assign by law certain residential areas to a specific group of people and forbid them to live elsewhere. That was done in Europe by the anti-Semites and their successors, the Hitlerites. It is still being done in Dixie.

The indirect way of establishing the ghetto is to organize all the property owners in a neighborhood and persuade them to sign covenants forbidding the use or occupancy of their property to a specific group of people. That is being done in a wholesale fashion throughout the United States.

The ghetto is where lighting is dim, pavements end or crack up, transportation is seldom, rats grow to be dogs, garbage simply putrefies, roofs always leak, food wholesalers unload their leftovers, all manner of quacks ply their trade, the cops become trigger-happy, and the conditions for raising a family in the security of a home just don't exist.

And as Hitler demonstrated beyond doubt, whenever a people can be driven into a ghetto, it's but one short step to their systematic extermination. That's why the growing trend of restrictive covenants throughout the North and West of the United States is cause for a great deal more than mere alarm.

Measure Of Reaction

THIS TREND is especially marked on the Pacific Coast, where the mushrooming of war industries attracted tens of thousands of Negro migrants, and the ensuing growth of unity during the war tended to blur the old distinctions and discriminations against Asiatics, Mexican-Americans, and Jews.

But it seems nationwide in scope, and in certain cases has had direct backing of big business interests.

It may be considered a measure not only of the spread of bigotry and the traditions of Dixie, but also, and more significant, a measure of the boldness and freedom of action of the most rabid racists.

But also, it should be remembered, the ghetto rests on long-standing legal and juridicial foundations. In Dixie, the state and municipal statutes sustain it. In the rest of the country, the courts defend it. They defend it in the name of that most holy of holies, the sacred right of property, which of course is more important in this land of free enterprise than the rights of human beings to a decent home and to freedom of choosing their home.

Such juridicial foundations are the main targets against which many a lawyer is now firing round after round of argument. But in Canada the other day, a superior court judge demolished the logical shield of these foundations with a devastating fire. It is instructive to review his ruling.

Americans Please Copy!

THE JUDGE was J. Mackay of Toronto, Ont. The covenant in question provided: "Land not to be sold to Jews or persons of objectional nationality."

Said Judge Mackay, and please mark this carefully:

"Anti-Semitism has been a weapon in the hands of our recently-defeated enemies and the scourge of the world.

"If sale of a piece of property can be prohibited to Jews, it can equally be prohibited to Protestants, Catholics or other groups or denominations. If the sale of one piece of land can be so prohibited, the sale of other pieces of land can likewise be prohibited."

The judge found the covenant void on four counts: (1) Against public policy, (2) invalid as a restraint on alienation, (3) void for uncertainty, and (4) against the Racial Discrimination Act (enacted in Ontario in 1944).

Judge Mackay called for support of his ruling the preamble to the ations, the Constitution esolution of the World ons, and statements of elt.

ng if some U.S. judges age of Judge Mackay. when the executive and e government have forer, are repudiating the tions, are ignorant that Constitution or that a de Unions exists, and a year what Roosevelt are daily trying to undo in a ye required 12 years to do.

Atlanta Mayor Guards 'Rights' of 'Innocent' White Residents

afro American
Baltimore, Md. Sat 4-13-46

ATLANTA (ANP)—Requesting the Atlanta Real Estate Board to stop the alleged practice of real estate dealers of encouraging coolred people to buy property in white residential areas, Mayor William B. Hartsfield said that he is concerned with protecting the "innocent" white people.

In referring the matter to E. M. Chapman, president of the real estate board, the mayor said last week, "If any agents are making undue profits by selling property in white neighborhoods to colored, I think they ought to be publicly exposed."

Meanwhile, the expansion of the population into formerly white residential areas continues and colored already own homes now occupied by whites who have been given OPA notice to move.

New Covenant Trick Devised

afro American
Baltimore, Md.

ATLANTA—A new kind of restrictive covenant, outside the province of the courts, is being introduced here, according to a letter sent Mayor William B. Hartsfield by Edward M. Chapman, real estate board president, concerning sale of properties to colored people in predominately white areas. 4-20-46

Branding it as a "bad practice," Mr. Chapman told the mayor, who complained about the practice to the realtors on Mar. 30, that all the members of the Real Estate Board "are in agreement with the contents of your letter.

"We pledge 100 per cent. cooperation to you and the city of Atlanta" to stop the selling of such properties.

Board's Findings

The mayor had asked that "agents making undue profits" by such sales be "publicly exposed," and emphasized that he is concerned with "protecting the innocent white people."

The realty board president pointed out to the mayor that:

"We have learned that in a number of instances, the white owners have sold first themselves directly to colored people, and, of course, that is what starts the entire trend and confusion — one small sale. Sat 4-20-46

"And from this, the various other property owners begin to call the various real estate agents asking them to sell their property to colored people."

Brokers Sell Freely

Mr. Chapman reminded the mayor that, in the past two years a large number of realtors entering the field received their license from the State Real Estate Commission, giving them the liberty to sell property as they see fit.

He reported to the mayor that one of three agents he mentioned as being "guilty of selling to colored people" is a member of the Real Estate Board

sioner Charlie Brown and other West End leaders and draft corporate plans.

He said that West End home owners attending the meeting voted 100 per cent to sign a covenant pledging themselves not to sell houses in all-white or predominantly white residential districts to Negroes. If the covenant were violated, the offenders could be sued, Mr. Wallace said.

The chairman added that purchases of stock will be limited to $500. He said that the corporation will try to buy back houses from Negroes on Sells Avenue and on West End Avenue from Lee to Ashby Streets at the prices the Negroes paid for them.

Negroes who recently purchased homes in white sections were "badly misinformed," he declared, emphasizing that the West End home owners had no personal animosity toward them.

Placing the Blame

The Constitution

Editor Constitution: We, white residents of Western Heights, resent and call lie to the letter you published in your letters to the editor section of Oct. 3, signed by M. K. Echols. In the first place, to set the record straight, we are not low whites; there has been no turmoil in our neighborhood; ours is not a potential Negro community and never will be, for we intend to keep it white. In the second place, we can find no such individual as mentioned above and we doubt the existence of such a person. Atlanta, Ga. Fri. 10-18-46

Our community is thoroughly organized and through this organization we have stopped the advance of the Negro into our residential section. Certain people, unworthy of their white heritage, object to our efforts because they can no longer make fat profits in real estate. We place the blame for the trouble we had squarely on their shoulders.

One more thing, we wish to thank the Columbians for taking up our fight when the situation looked so hopeless and for showing us how to win. They have taught us one valuable lesson: the white people of a community can have anything they want, when they are organized.

This letter was signed by 163 residents of Western Heights.

fort to buy back houses purchased by Negroes on white residential streets in that section.

Joseph M. Wallace, temporary president of the association, said he expected West End home owners and tenants to subscribe from $15,000 to $20,000 for the association's treasury by buying stock in it at $10 a share.

The major portion of the funds is expected to go into repurchase of the Negro homes, and any remaining funds will be used to improve the West End section.

Mr. Wallace said that members of the association will meet at 3 p. m. Sunday in the Legion Hall on Ashby Street to work out details for a conference this week with city officials and Negro leaders at the City Hall.

He added that his group will seek to help Negroes form their own association for the purpose of building a Negro housing project and thus relieve the home shortage which led them to buy into the white residential areas.

He said that one of the controversial problems in West End appears near solution due to the negotiations of a white resident to repurchase a West End Avenue church, sold to Negroes

Negro Family Moves After Demonstration

The Advertiser

ATLANTA, Nov. 23. — (AP) — Annie Cherry, Negro, locked the door of her new home and left by taxi with her family today after the house was surrounded by about 100 white residents of the section. Montgomery, Ala.

"I wouldn't live in a place like this, because it's not a religious place," the Negro woman said as she left with her two Army veteran sons. Sun. 11-24-46

Police Lieut. J. B. Harper, Detective M. V. Moss and three uniformed officers spent a couple of hours at the house as a result of the incident.

According to police and residents of the area, the street has no Negroes living on it for a stretch of about eight blocks. However, they said that recently Negroes have purchased property amongst the white people, although this was the first instance of a Negro family attempting to move in.

Police said that neither the Ku Klux Klan, nor the more recently organized Columbians participated in today's incident, that rather it appeared to be an unorganized, sportaneous reaction of white residents of the neighborhood.

Meet for White-Negro Property Division

Committees representing the West End Co-operative Association, Inc., and Negro property owners in the West End areas of Atlanta met yesterday at the City Hall and following the conference there expressed hope that lines can be established which will be mutually agreeable in ending future encroachment. The Association, represented by Joseph M. Wallace as Chairman, asked Negro representatives to obtain prices which Negro owners would ask if the association sought to buy about 30 properties back from them. The homes are located on Sells Avenue, West End Avenue and Ashby Street.

Atlanta's Tension Spots

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

The flare-up on Sells Avenue last week, occasioned by the moving of a Negro family into the neighborhood, which formerly had been inhabited by white citizens, is fraught with real danger, unless law enforcement officials and responsible leaders take stern measures to circumvent ontoward eventualities. The facts show that the family in question was in the act of moving her household effects into a home recently purchased, whereupon, one or several white men called to her not to unload the van. From this beginning, several unlovely incidents developed, until now all citizens, white and colored alike, have come to recognize a peritirely to blame for selling houses to Negroes in sections predominantly white. A white home owner may see an opportunity to sell at thousands of dollars profit. Disregarding his neighbor's property value, the unprincipled white home owner lessens the property value of an entire city block or section by selling to a colored agent directly or indirectly. This action will create a general tendency to other white owners to sell unwillingly. The unfortunate white tenants are also victims of unscrupulous sales. After renting a house for years at $20 to $30 per month, the agents or renters may put the house up for sale at exorbitant price, beyond the reach of the tenants. Moreover, the white tenant may not consider the house worth the appraisement of the landlord. The unscrupulous dealer takes advantage of this inflated sale and resells to a colored family.

In some deeds of white home owners, an obscured clause prohibits the sale of his

CLAYTON WARREN.

Birmingham

West Enders Plan to Rebuy Negro Houses

More than 200 West End home owners voted at a mass meeting Sunday afternoon to form a corporation for the purpose of buying back houses recently purchased by Negroes in that section.

A three-man committee was appointed, headed by Joseph M. Wallace, of 839 Park Street, S. W., to work out details of the corporation. Mr. Wallace said his committee would meet Thursday night at his home with Commis-

New West End Group Plans House Meeting

The newly formed West End Improvement Association will meet this week with city authorities and Negro leaders in an ef-

Negro Housing Problem

Editor, The Journal: Wright Bryan's timely report on Negro housing and Negro residential section surrounded by white sections is noteworthy. However, unscrupulous real estate agents are not en-

sonal responsibility in following through to a satisfactory and lasting solution to a pressing problem. Tues. 7-17-46

Remaining white residents in the locality are said to have had a neighborhood meeting over the past week-end, the results of which would be transmitted to Mayor Hartsfield's Secretary, since the Mayor himself is away on official business. In turn, Negro leaders have also held meetings, all aimed at bringing about a speedy and amicable solution to a problem which must not be permitted to become any more aggravated. It is to be seriously noped that the Mayor's Secretary, who in this case is an intermediary between the Negro and white leaders, will have some definite and permanent solution to this situation which will be mutually satisfactory to all groups concerned.

We take the position that both groups of residents, those already in the neighborhood and the others who purchased homes there with the understanding that whites were vacating the neighborhood, have certain fundamental rights which should be respected by each other. This does not for a single moment, concede any right, moral or legal, to outside influences seeking to meddle into a situation with which they have nothing to do. It means only that the immediate groups hold the key to an amicable and lasting solution to the problem.

On the other hand, as we view the total picture, it is difficult to overlook the fact that the real estate dealers are, in a peculiar sense, blameworthy for many of these tension spots. For in the critical shortage of homes for Negroes, real estate dealers not only get top prices for old homes, but likewise lose sight of the fact that they are forcing others out of homes where they have lived for many years, only to make room for Negro families who are not in the least anxious to move into such neighborhoods. We hope the practice will not be counternanced any longer. Mayor Hartsfield called attention to this situation several months ago.

'Molotov Cocktail' Hurled In Flat To Oust Negro Tenant

Chicago Defender

Two "Molotov Cocktails" were hurled at an apartment building at 1856 Blue Island ave. last week in an attempt to oust Negro tenants from the neighborhood.

The three story brick structure housing about 50 persons, both Negro and white, was fire-bombed after a Negro tenant had been warned by unidentified white men that "Colored people are not wanted in this neighborhood."

Sherman Hemphill, 35, a laborer who lives on the second floor, told officers of the arson and bomb squad that he had stamped out the flame of one of the bombs after it was thrown through the window at about 9 p.m. Hemphill's wife and two children were with him.

Bomb Misses Mark

A second bomb, apparently intended for the third floor apartment of Mrs. Ann Johnson and her two children, hit the window and fell to the ground in flames.

The bombs were made with empty wine bottles filled with gasoline. A tin can filled with waste material soaked with gasoline was wired to the bottles.

When the bottle becomes hot from the blaze of the ignited waste material, a detective said, it will explode and throw flames 10 feet in all directions.

N.U. Denies Vets Campus Housing

Chicago Defender

EVANSTON, Ill., July 15 — (ANP)—Although faced with loss of priorities for erection of additional dormitories on the campus because of its avowed jim crow policy, Northwestern university intends to have segregated housing for veterans or none, according to statements from the president's office last week.

Discussing a ruling of the National Housing agency to withhold approval of housing from which Negro veterans are barred, President Franklin Bliss Snyder said the university's established practice is to have Negro students, including veterans, live off the campus.

Snyder was queried regarding a letter from Edward E. Clarke, assistant regional housing expediter, which declared "it is, of course, the policy of the National Housing agency . . ."

Loop Hotels Ban Race History Fete

Chicago Defender, 1st.

The Jim Crow policy of Chicago's Loop hotels was an obstacle in the progress of Negro history this week.

The Congress, Stevens and Sherman hotels refused to accommodate the interracial celebration planned Feb. 16 for Negro History Week, it was charged by the National Negro Museum and Historical Foundation.

There is a nation-wide "unwritten law" among hotel associations to bar predominantly Negro groups, the Defender learned.

The three Loop hotels were contacted Friday by the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee on behalf of the Foundation. The Congress, Sherman and Stevens reported that they would accept the reservation for Negro History Week.

However, when Miss Norma Komer of the Civil Liberties Committee arrived with a deposit this week she was told that the hotels were "filled up."

At the Congress she was flatly told: "We prefer not having the business. Besides, our waiters refuse to serve Negroes."

This statement was branded a "trumped up excuse" by Willie Thomas, secretary-treasurer of the Federated Hotel Waiters Union Local 356. "I am well acquainted with the members of Local 25 who work at those hotels," he declared. "I also know that is not the official policy of the executive officials of our union."

The Sherman management reported the hotel was filled up, while at the Stevens, the management stalled and failed to commit itself.

William J. Wilson, secretary of the Greater Chicago Hotel Association, 105 W. Madison st., declared that he "knew of no policy" among Chicago hotels regarding Negro groups. "I do know that February is going to be a very busy month and every hotel in Chicago is booked solid," he added. "When hotel rooms are crowded because of conventions, the other hotel facilities are also crowded."

Denies Jim Crow Policy

Wilson denied any knowledge of the national discrimination policy against predominantly Negro gatherings.

A mass meeting protesting the Loop hotels' discrimination has been called for Feb. 10, 2:30 p.m., at DuSable High School, by the United Packinghouse Workers, CIO.

Herb March, UPWA district director, issued a statement condemning the Jim Crow policy. "While we are waiting for a decision on our demands being heard by the government fact finding committee, we consider it in our interest to join in the fight against the filibuster in the Senate against the fair employment practices bill.

"We were also informed of the Jim Crow stand of the Loop hotels against Negro History Week. We are therefore moving to join with community forces, Negro and white, in a huge mass meeting urging the passage of FEPC and protecting hotel discrimination against Negroes. This is part and parcel of the fight to build our union and to win our demands for a living wage."

Negro History Week has the broadest sponsorship it has ever had, John Gray, executive director of the Foundation, announced this week. He disclosed that the proposed celebration downtown was to have been interracial, with Col. Marcus Ray, civilian aide to Secretary of War Robert Patterson, and Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas as guest speakers.

President of the National Negro Museum and Historical Foundation is Samuel Stratton. Frank Marshall Davis is secretary.

Gray said the UPWA mass meeting would be the opening gun in in the celebration of Negro History Week, Feb. 10 to 17.

Widow Bombed Out of Chi. Home

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO. — Following a six-week investigation to uncover the full story of the incendiary bombing of Mrs. Grace Hardy's home on the night of May 1, the Socialist Party has pledged its "unflagging support" to maintain her right to live wherever she wishes.

A widow with two sons, Mrs. Hardy bought and moved into a house at 315 W. Garrison Blvd., just outside the "Black Ghetto," renting out the second story to two colored tenants.

Three days later, while in the kitchen, Mrs. Hardy, seeing a ball of fire crash through the window directly at her, threw up her arm to ward off an incendiary bomb which sprayed her with flaming gasoline.

The flames extinguished by one of her tenants, she remained in the house until the fire department arrived, then was carried to the hospital, where she has been since with third-degree burns.

Although the fire chief has stated that the bombing was carefully planned, police have made no arrests and are reluctant to reveal any information, according to the Chicago Socialists leading the fight for Mrs. Hardy.

Chicago Hotels Set Quota On Negroes At Banquets

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Sec

The lid was this week blown off a city-wide conspiracy of hotel managers to bar "all-Negro" or "predominantly Negro" organizations from use of hotel banquet halls.

Catering manager Eugene Egli of the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago's Loop admitted that "half Negro and half white" groups "might get by," but if less than 35 per cent of a group was white, its reservation will not be accepted.

"We have Negroes frequently in various organizations that come in here, union and other," Egli told members of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, "but we have to consider our customers and they won't stand for an all-Negro outfit."

Egli stated that this policy holds for the LaSalle hotel and all hotels in the Loop.

Investigation of the hotel race policy began when the Congress, Stevens and Sherman hotels refused to accommodate an interracial banquet meeting during Negro History Week.

Each hotel accepted the reservation until the sponsors were named, the National Negro Museum and Historical Foundation. They suddenly found their hall schedule "filled up."

Test cases were carried on this week by the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee headed by Ira Latimer, executive secretary of the committee.

Armed with several reservations a "predominately Negro" group went to dine at the sumptuous Boulevard Room of the Stevens hotel Sunday evening.

The dining room host who met the group at the door "discovered" that all the reservations were "lost" or "unlisted."

The group of over 20 persons went downstairs to the Park Row room where reservations are not required. The host told them, "You must have reservations. Have I made that clear to you?"

The group met with similar receptions at the Morrison and LaSalle hotels.

The Civil Liberties Committee addressed a letter and affidavit to Gov. Dwight Green, asking prosecution of the LaSalle hotel on violation of the civil rights law.

PROFESSOR JIM CROW AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

In order to prove that Jim Crowism is not fed by ignorance, Northwestern University, already notorious for its policy of discrimination, is adding one more chapter to a shameful record of intolerance by proposing to erect an apartment hotel for veterans and faculty members from which Negro veterans will be barred.

While ignorance of moral principles may be excused in institutions where the transgressors are unenlightened, we can scarcely tolerate so indecent and brazen an exhibition of chauvinism as displayed by one of the highest precincts of academic learning. Perhaps Northwestern University is in the wrong locale. If its purpose is to make Jim Crowism an integral part of its administrative policy, its officials would find a far more fruitful soil in Mississippi, Georgia or Texas than in Illinois.

We know of a beautiful spot "deep in the heart of Texas" where President Snyder and his faculty would enjoy complete immunity from cultural good taste and black interference. We recommend that the trustees move the university to Corpus Christi, Texas. It is the only spot on this side of hell that would be suitable to the Herrenvolk of Evanston. There, Professor Jim Crow could lecture freely on Hitlerism and the superiority of the white race.

Northwestern U. Plans Jim Crow Vets' Dormitory

Chicago Defender, Ill.
5-4-46

Northwestern University added a scholarly touch to Jim Crow housing this week when it disclosed that Negro veterans would be barred from its spacious new dormitories.

The institution's long standing policy of discrimination in housing colored students will be extended to cover a proposed 280 apartment hotel for veterans and faculty members.

Queries by the Chicago Defender, made after university officials applied to the Evanston city council Monday night to build the new structure, revealed the continued lily-white pattern.

The request ran into the immediate opposition of Evanston's lone Negro alderman, Edward B. Jourdain, who urged the council to demand that the school drop its color bar as a condition upon which permission would be granted.

Ald. Jourdain, chairman of the building committee, declared the university should be held to an open door policy for colored students if the Evanston city council is to approve the institution's request for special permission to construct new living quarters.

In making the urgent request for the housing project, Northwestern's spokesmen were confronted with the university's long-standing record of discrimination against colored students. Sat.

"For years Northwestern University has refused its own students housing facilities if the students happened to be colored," declared Ald. Jourdain. 5-4-46

"For years," he added, "girls as well as boys have been forced to live in inadequate housing often shockingly far from the campus, and for no reason at all except they happened to be colored."

During a recent meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Human Relations, Northwestern was blasted for limiting its student body in relations to Negroes and Jews.

Co-ed Attacked Sat.

It was disclosed this week after suppression by Evanston police that a colored co-ed, daughter of a Washington, D. C., physician and school teacher, was stabbed, almost fatally, while making her way home through the dark streets, two miles from the university.

The student, Jeanne Ackiss, was stabbed by an unknown assailant April 10 at Maple ave., and Church st., after leaving her classes, it was charged. 5-4-46

University Indicted

This probably would not have happened, asserted Jourdain, had living quarters on the campus been open to her.

"Something has to be done, and done now, without waiting for another near-tragedy," he declared.

It was recommended by the building committee chairman on the council floor that if Northwestern's application for additional housing be granted, it should be subject to the condition: that housing facilities be equally available to all university students alike, regardless of race or color.

27 Bombings Hit Chicago Negro Homes

Defender

Local Police Flayed For Failure To Act In Reign Of Terror

A scathing criticism of police failure to apprehend vandals guilty of 27 recent bombings of Negro homes in restrictive covenant areas was laid in the lap of Police Commissioner John C. Prendergast this week. Sat. 7-6-46

A delegation from 10 civic and labor organizations called on Prendergast to protest the situation after receiving reports of a six-week-old plot by local authorities to suppress circumstances surrounding the incendiary bombing of the home of Mrs. Grace Hardy at 315 W. Garfield blvd., latest in the series of the bombings.

Commissioner Prendergast immediately replied that "every effort would be made to apprehend and punish the criminals responsible for the arson-bombing of the home of Mrs. Grace Hardy."

27 Bombings Told Chicago

The commissioner responded to a demand for an immediate search for the hoodlums. As a preventive measure against further bombings in so-called restrictive areas, he was asked to inform the Mayor's Commission on Human Relations of tense situations in those areas when they occur. Illinois

Police captains should work with the Mayor's Commission, reporting all offenses against Negro residents to it, the delegation urged.

Commissioner Prendergast was reminded of the 27 cases of bombings against Negro residents who had purchased property in white communities. None of the criminals have been apprehended or punished.

Police Assailed Sat. 7-6-46

In many cases, it was pointed out, police, assigned to protect colored residents when racial conflicts were inevitable, have been guilty of sympathizing with the offenders.

In the arson-bombing of the home of Henry L. Vandetta at 9330 Forest ave., in July, 1945, Burnside, police assigned to protect his home, informed Vandetta that the "place had been touched off, and a mob had gathered around."

Vandetta told the Defender that he was asked by police to sell the home and move out of the neighborhood.

Officer William Sass, who conducted an investigation of the bombing with officer Walters Peters, told the Defender that the neighbors "wouldn't talk, and they do not want Vandetta in there." He should move, Sass declared.

Law enforcement authorities disregarded the bombing of the home of 59-year-old Henry Thomas who operated a grocery and market at 2902 Wentworth ave. The Defender

The bombing occurred in October, 1945, and Thomas was severely burned about the face and body by a fast-spreading fire that swept through his home after the arsonist's bomb was hurled.

Restrictive Covenants Blamed

Woodlawn police took lightly the bombing of the home of Frank Green at 6439 Maryland ave., in November, 1945. Negro tenants in the building disclosed that police, who claimed to have seen white men lurking around the building, fired in the air, but never made an arrest. Chicago, Ill

Green asserted that police assigned to guard his building, held friendly conversations with a next door neighbor, Ray McCormick, who threatened him.

McCormick's wife, Vivian, and Mrs. Bessie McCray, 6417 Maryland ave., filed a suit to evict Green and his tenants, and to restrain the sale of property in the restricted area to Negroes.

The delegation calling on the commissioner included Michael Mann, secretary, Chicago Industrial Council, CIO; Dr. Joseph M. Evans, pastor, Metropolitan Community church. Lawrence Montague, chairman, CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination; Michael Bartell, Socialist Workers Party; Dr. Homer A. Jack, Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination, and Henry W. McGee, president, Chicago branch, NAACP. Sat. 7-6-46

Prior to the meeting with Commissioner Prendergast, the NAACP called the city's top social and civic leaders to a conference at the City Club to discuss vicious acts of vandalism against Negroes attempting to find living quarters outside the segregated ghetto.

Restrictive covenant signers were denounced bitterly and plans to eliminate the vicious practice were proposed and approved.

"I stand unalterably opposed to such vicious practices that arise out of the congested situation we face in Chicago," declared Dr. Evans.

Mann said, "these kind of damnable outrages have got to stop. This matter has been brought to the police, and if no action is taken by the police to protect citizens, the CIO will raise plenty of hell.

Immediate Action Demanded

McGee, speaking for the NAACP, said "some immediate action must be taken to stop this reign of terror against Negroes who are trying to find places to live.

"Adaquate protection must be given Negro families moving into so-called white neighborhoods," he said.

Vets Organization To Sue 2 Chicago Hotels

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
Sunday 7-14-46

CHICAGO—(ANP)— Legal proceedings will be launched against two Chicago hotels, the Continental and the Stevens, for violation of the Illinois State Civil Rights law, by the United Negro and Allied veterans of America, it was announced at the headquarters of the organization here. 7-14-46

The law suits will be based on the refusal of the managements of the hotels named to allow the organization ballroom space for its testimonial dinner to Joe Louis to be given on July 23. Representatives of UNAVA applied for bookings at both hotels and received refusals after learning that dinner was being arranged by a predominantly - Negro organization (Membership of the United Negro and Allied veterans is 80 per cent Negro, 20 per cent white.)

KENNEDY ANNOUNCES Chicago 7-14-46

"Our legal counsel has been instructed to file suits against the Continental and Stevens hotels, Chicago, under provisions of the Illinois State Civil Rights law," Kenneth C. Kennedy, national commander of the organization, stated. 7-14-46

"The refusal of these hotels to allow the UNAVA ball room space for its testimonial dinner to Champion Joe Louis is a flagrant case of racial discrimination involving the heavyweight champion of the world and an organization of ex-servicemen."

Deny Services To Negroes At Hotel

New York Amsterdam News

2-16-46

CHICAGO—Three Chicago hotels last week refused to accommodate Negroes at the forthcoming Negro History Week celebration. The Congress, Stevens and Sherman Hotels said they would not serve the interracial gathering either in the dining rooms or in the hotel rooms. One hotel, the Congress, told Norma Komer of the Civil Liberties Committee, that they "prefer not having the business. Beside, our waiters refuse to serve Ngroes." The waiters' union denied this accusation.

The Sherman Hotel merely said they were filled up, but the Stevens stalled and did not want to make a stand on the situation.

A mass meeting to discuss this latest discrimination was called for Tuesday night at the DuSable High School by the United Packinghouse Workers. CIO.

Tenants Halt KKK In Ouster Effort

Amsterdam News New York

CHICAGO — KKK tactics failed to move two Negro families out of the apartment house they have occupied since before Christmas. According to reports, several vandals threw "Molotov Cocktails" against the windows and walls of the house, endangering the lives of at least 20 persons. 2-16-46

Flaming rags wired to bottles of gasoline hurtled through the windows of two apartments, threatening death and destruction even though police ostensibly stood outside "protecting" the inhabitants. The Johnsons and the Hemphills have been told to move by other tenants ever since they moved in. Mr. Hemphill says it has been impossible for him to go to work in the morning.

Builder Says FHA Sanctions Bias

AFRO-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON.

Charges that the Federal Housing Authority is engaged in a conspiracy to restrict residential areas in Chicago against purchase and use by colored residents were made to the Fair Employment Practice Committee Monday by Robert P. McFarland, White Chicago builder. 3-2-46

In a telegram to Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, Mr. McFarland further declared that FHA uses its power to coerce builders into restricting new land development areas against use and ownership by colored citizens. Sat.

Builders are told, he complained, that they cannot use FHA facilities unless they deliver to the FHA office a certified copy of restrictive covenants.

Demands Bias Clauses

Unless these covenants contain racial restrictive clauses, FHA will not accept the covenants nor will loans be guaranteed under the FHA, he added. 3-2-46

Mr. McFarland claimed that his charges are a matter of record, and can be proved by reference to FHA files by the examination of land titles in that area. He said that he is planning court action to stop the practice.

Mayor, Civil Liberties Aide Sued by Landlords

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO (ANP)—White south side landlords, in a desperate fight to bar colored home seekers from so-called white neighborhoods—in the face of swiftly crumbling anti-colored restrictive covenants—have filed a $15,000 suit against Mayor Edward J. Kelly and Ira Latimer, executive secretary, Chicago Civil Liberties Committee.

Information on the suit was supplied last week by Alton D. Baird, a member of the newly-formed Independent Citizens' Committee, white, who heads the campaign to bar colored from the fashionable Drexel Avenue area by supplying "not for sale" signs to his neighbors.

Baird's organization is alleged to be a by-product of the race-baiting Oakland-Kenwood Property Owners' Association which waged a 25-year losing battle through threats, violence and court action to bar colored from that area. Sat 2-16-46

Spreads Hate

"We do things the property association can't afford to do officialy," said Baird, who has been a resident in the Drexel Avenue vicinity for 12 years.

He denounced Jews as well as Mayor Kelly and Latimer, charging them with aiding colored people to break restrictive covenants and fraternizing with "n---rs."

"My son was fighting to save those same Jews that Hitler was killing, and what do they do but sell out to the n---rs while my son is out fighting to save them."

Praises Bombing

Baird regretted that Jews fraternize with colored people, invite them to their homes, "eat with them, go to shows with them and even brush off their coats."

He expressed jubilation over the bombing of the home of the Rev. Theodore Dabney, colored, last year, who, with his wife, barely missed being burned to death.

"You know," Baird continued, "Mayor Kelly and his n---r votes and stoogy judges don't do no good. We're suing him and his flunky, Latimer, for $15,000 apiece."

Mrs. Mabel Matax, one of his neighbors, declared that "I'd rather move out of Chicago if I have to live next to n---rs." Five colored families have already moved into her block, and more are slated to join them.

"LILY-WHITE" VET HOUSING PLANNED AT NORTHWESTERN

Afro-American Baltimore

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Northwestern University's biased policy will be continued, according to a recent statement announcing that the 280-apartment building for veterans and faculty members will be for "white only." 2-15-4-46

Use 'Not for Sale' Signs

BIASED LANDLORDS SUE CHICAGO MAYOR

Courier Pittsburg, Pa.

2-16-46

CHICAGO—(ANP)—White South Side landlords, in a desperate fight to bar Negro home seekers from moving into so-called white neighborhoods here in the face of swiftly crumbling anti-Negro restrictive covenants, have filed a $15,000 suit against Mayor Edward J. Kelly and Ira Latimer, executive secretary of the Chicago Civil Liberties committee.

Information of the suit was supplied last week by Alton D. Baird, a member of the newly formed anti-Negro White Independent Citizens' Committee, who has spearheaded the campaign to bar Negroes from the fashionable South Side Drexel Avenue area by supplying "not for sale" signs to his neighbors.

ATTEMPTS COLOR BAR

Baird's organization is alleged to be a by-product of the race-baiting Oakland-Kenwood Property Owners' Association that waged a twenty-five-year losing battle through threats, violence and court action to bar Negroes from that area. 2-16-46

"We do things the property association can't afford to do officially," he said.

Baird, a resident in the Drexel Avenue vicinity for twelve years, denounced Jews as well as Mayor Kelly and Latimer. They were charged with aiding Negroes to break restrictive covenants and fraternizing with "n--rs."

"My son was fighting to save those same Jews that Hitler was killing, and what do they do but sell out to the n--rs, while my son is out fighting to save them."

He despaired that Jews fraternize with Negroes, invite them to their homes, "eat with them, go to shows with them; they even brush off their coats." He expressed jubilation over the bombing of a Negro preacher's home, that of the Rev. Thedore Dabney, last year. Rev. Mr. Dabney and his wife narrowly missed being burned to death.

Homemade "Molotov cocktails" Thrown at Negro homes

Los Angeles Sentinel 3-7-46

CHICAGO—Two crudely made "Molotov cocktail" fire bombs were thrown at a three-story apartment building here occupied by about 50 Negroes and whites last week, after one Negro tenant was warned by unidentified white men that "Colored people are not wanted in this neighborhood". 2-9-46

One bomb was thrown into the second-floor family apartment of Sherman Hemphill, 35, Negro laborer, who told police he stamped out the flame. The other, apparently intended for the third-floor apartment of Mrs. Anne Johnson, also a Negro, and her two children, hit the window and fell to the ground in flames. The bombs were empty wine bottles filled with gasoline, to which had been wired tin cans filled with gasoline-soaked waste material. Police said the bottles, when heated, would have exploded and thrown flames 10 feet in all directions.

In Chicago, Too

BROTHERHOOD WEEK GETS A 'BLACK EYE'

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

CHICAGO—Back in Memphis after a harrowing week in the "Land of Make Believe"—Chicago, where jim crow is supposed to be on the run, a LeMoyne University teacher and nine students say that they shall never forget Brotherhood Week of 1946 and the experiences they encountered upon their arrival o'clock that Sunday morning, the there Feb. 17.

It all happened when Mrs. visibly pop-eyed as the rest of the George A. Sewell, faculty member hotel crew, asked cheerily, "Are at LeMoyne, obtained reservations you Mrs. Sewell?" Almost before through mail for five rooms at this question could be answered a The Mayflower Hotel, 6125 Ken- man walked up and said the rooms wood Avenue, and proceeded on wouldn't be vacant. In fact he in- the above date with her nine stu- timated that he didn't know when dents to occupy them. they would be vacant at all, all five of them, but perhaps they When they filed into the lobby could have two.

and with taximen hurrying with "Well," said Mrs. Sewell, "I'll their baggage about 10:30 or 11 fore she could finish he interrupt-

clerk, almost flabbergasted and asked and said he didn't think that the two would be vacant either and advised the party to be on their way to another before in its entire existence had finally was housed at Hotel Grand- at Fifty-first and South Parkway late Sunday evening.

TO WORK TO SEE SCHOOL SYSTEMS

Of course during the week they could be trying to carried out their plan of observ- the guests-not-to-be. ing various school systems as can there and there for be seen at the University of Chi- ns and during that cago, Winnetka where they were he office personnel, a treated very cordially at the Skok- ly admitted to Mrs. ie. Herbert Wood and Crow Island

Transl

BOMBS TO KEEP NEGROES OUT

Chicago Defender

Landlords Plot Reign Of Terror

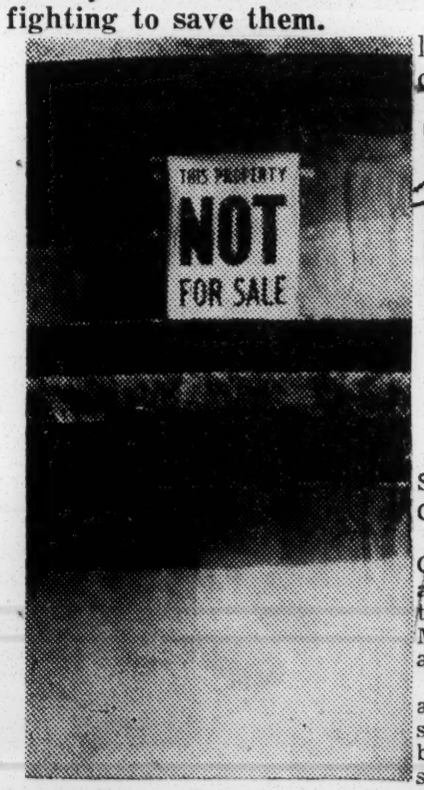
White Southside property owners this week launched a full-scale attack on Mayor Edward J. Kelly in a last-ditch battle to keep Negro residents out of white neighborhoods. 2-16-46

In close collaboration with the discredited Oakland-Kenwood Property Owners' Association, white landlords have formed a White Independent Citizens' Committee to terrorize Negro homeowners who have succeeded in breaking through the rapidly-tumbling restrictive covenants.

Ringleader is Alton D. Baird, 4131 Drexel blvd., who has personally supplied his neighbors with window signs which ominously announce that "This Property Is Not For Sale." When asked about his organization, Baird said meaningfully: "We do things the Property Association can't afford to do officially. Sat.

"I've been living here nigh on 12 years and now I got nigger neighbors on the north and on the south of me. And who do you think is to blame? The Jews. They're the greatest danger around here. They got no respect at all for restrictive covenants. You sell 'em some property, and they turn right around and sell it to the niggers.

"My son was fighting to save those same Jews that Hitler was killing, and what do they do but sell out to the niggers while my son is out fighting to save them.



"Jews are friends with the niggers. They invite them to their homes, eat with them, go to shows with them; they even brush off their coats. I don't get it," said Mr. Baird despairingly.

When asked if he remembered the bombing of Rev. Theodore Dabney's home, 4145 Drexel, last May, Mr. Baird answered with a knowing chuckle: "God, I thought that was great!

"But," continued Baird, "bombing don't do no good. We- - er - - they bombed and burned the niggers on Michigan Boulevard and they bombed 'em and burned 'em on Grand, and now the niggers are there anyway. You gotta fight it out in the courts," he decided unhappily. 2-16-46

"You know," Baird went on, "Mayor Kelly and his nigger votes and stoogy judges don't do no good. We're suing him and his flunky, Latimer (Ira Latimer of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee), for $15,000 apiece. It was in all the papers a month ago." Almost tearfully Baird decided, however, that "he'll probably get in again. That machine, you know."

Trumpted Baird: "We're fighting in the front lines here in Kenwood. Those Jews better get wise; if we lose, their Hyde Park is next."

Mrs. Mabel Matax, 4129 Drexel blvd., a neighbor of Citizen Baird, was equally disturbed over the idea of sharing her neighborhood with fellow-Chicagoans of a darker hue.

"We're just as red-blooded Americans as the niggers, and they're trying to run us out. Kelly says they should have equal rights—the niggers. If they go into a restaurant and sit next to your wife and family you're supposed to like it. Kelly is strictly for the colored. I've always voted the Democratic ticket but I sure won't anymore. Let the niggers vote him in. He's trying to get in good with them at our expense.

"I'd rather move out of Chicago if I have to live next to niggers. That's why we moved here; we thought we'd be safe. I ain't blaming the niggers; it's Kelly's fault, the way he's putting it into their heads.

With the covenant system falling apart at the seams, Citizens Baird and Matax are fast losing ground. In spite of "No sale" signs at numbers 4109, 4123, 4129, and 4131 Drexel blvd., five Negro families have already moved into the 4100 block. One of these is that of Mrs. Rachel Carter, 4127 Drexel, who had only this to say concerning her hostile neighbors: 2-16-46

"We aren't going to let them bother us. We've been living here not as Negroes, but as peaceful American citizens, and that's how we're going to go right on living."

Chicago Hotel Bars Students

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill

13 From Memphis Refused Rooms

Sat 3-2-46

Negroes don't have to live in the South to become victims of Jim Crow.

Thirteen students from Le Moyne College in Memphis were made aware of that fact Sunday when they were refused rooms at the Mayflower Hotel, 6125 Kenwood ave.

Upon their arrival at the hotel, at which five rooms had been reserved, the all girl group was barred on the pretext of "a room shortage."

The clerk, who was under the impression that LeMoyne was a white school, further stated that he had no idea when the rooms would be vacated.

Mrs. Lillie White Sewell, in charge of the students, told the Chicago Defender: "Everything I said got me exactly nowhere."

Thereupon began a dash over Chicago's crowded Southside in an attempt to find accommodations elsewhere. After spending all of the first day at this problem, the group found rooms at the Hotel Grand, 51st st., and South Parkway after Commissioner Edward M. Sneed interceded.

Officials at the University of Chicago, when informed of the incident, were stunned, if at little else than the irony of the situation.

Here To Make Survey

The students came to Chicago to make a survey of educational systems in this area. Their survey included the University of Chicago, Roosevelt High School, in Gary, and the Winnetka Plan, of Winnetka, Ill.

All the girls are juniors in the school of education and are prospective teachers.

Minnie Coleman, one of the students, pointed out that she would be educated in more than one way before she returned to Memphis.

Northwestern Gets OK On Jim Crow Dorm

Chicago Defender

Agency Ignores Wyatt Promise, No Discrimination

Chicago, Ill.

Ignoring promises made by Wilson Wyatt, Federal Housing Coordinator, the Civilian Production Administration this week granted priorities to Northwestern University to construct dormitories barring Negro veterans.

Wyatt, addressing the Negro Publishers' Association at their last meeting in Washington, D. C., declared there would be no discrimination in the administration of the housing program.

The University will construct a 280 - apartment hotel for white veterans and faculty members.

Supporting Northwestern's long standing policy of discrimination in housing colored students, a spokesman for CPA, the federal agency which grants preference rating for institutional construction, made the following statement this week:

Sat 3-11-46

"The problem of race was not entered in the application; even if such information has been included, it would not have had any bearing on the case."

He added if Northwestern's administrative heads insist in maintaining the school's Jim Crow policy, "their way of operation is left entirely up to themselves."

Juggling the hot racial issue affecting Negro veterans, the CPA official declared provisions are made in the constitution to take care of racial discrimination.

It was indicated the granting of priorities for restrictive building purposes would continue, and government released materials would flow into the construction of the segregated dormitories.

An official of the Federal Housing Administration asserted, "I do not see how Northwestern University could be given priorities to construct housing facilities and bar Negro veterans."

Charles G. Beck, deputy administrator, Veterans' Administration branch office seven, for Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin, said:

"The Veterans' Administration has no authority of law to assist or in any way make available to schools or colleges any special priorities for construction of housing for veteran students.

"Because we dislike to see any veteran deprived of an opportunity to attend school under provisions of the GI Bill of Rights for lack of a proper place to live, we are interested in the housing problem at all educational institutions."

Last week officials of Northwestern were criticized for their Jim Crow housing policy when they applied to the Evanston City Council for a request to build the new structures.

Sat 3-11-46

Opposing the request because of the school's lily-white pattern, was Evanston's lone Negro alderman, Edward B. Jourdain, chairman of the building committee.

Ald. Jourdain urged the council to demand that the school drop its color bar as a condition upon which permission would be granted to build additional housing facilities. He declared the university should be held to an open door policy for colored students if the Evanston city council is to approve the institution's request for special permission to construct new living quarters.

2 Ind. Vets Sue Hotel on Discrimination Count

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

INDIANAPOLIS—Two disabled war veterans reecntly filed suit against the Antlers Hotel in Marion County Superior Court, charging that they were denied rooms during the State Legion convention, Sept. 21-24, after rooms had been reserved for them.

The veterans, Robert Hayes and Johns Scott are suing under the State Civil Rights statute and are supported by the Leonard Nichols Post of the American Legion, Muncie, Ind. Henry J. Richardson Jr. is their attorney. Sat. 11-2-46

Glenwood Ave. Home Barred to Prof.

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Because of Pressure Exerted by Whites

Sat. 10-12-46

Realtor Returns Dr. Ford's Down Payment on Property Not Covered by Legal Agreement

BALTIMORE

Dr. Nick A. Ford, professor of English at Morgan State College, was forced this week to drop transactions for the purchase of a home on Glenwood Ave., when prejudiced white residents in the neighborhood objected to the sale.

Dr. Ford stated that representatives of the Property Service Co., agents for the property, agreed several days ago to sell him a vacant 10-room house in the 500 block of Glenwood Ave. and accepted a deposit of $100.

When he returned to their office Wednesday, the realtors informed him that as a result of pressure from white residents in that area, they decided it was unwise to sell the property to any one not white, Dr. Ford said. The $100 deposit was returned.

Whites Reach Agreement

Meanwhile, four non-white families are living in three houses in this 500 block of Glenwood Ave., and white residents are reported to be attempting to force them to move elsewhere.

The realtors, according to Dr. Ford, said the whites had reached an agreement not to permit any more members of his race to move in the area and were offering those residing there lucrative prices for their homes.

A search through records in the Land Records office by the AFRO showed, however, that there is no restrictive covenant agreement on file for that area.

Negro AAU Boxers Barred At Hotel At Boston Tournament

Amsterdam News Sat 4-27-46

New York, N.Y.

The Negro metropolitan AAU boxing champions were barred from the Hotel Mangin in Boston, April 7, when the national title tournament was held there, April 8, 9 and 10, Marsden Burnell, promoter and sports authority, reported this week, stating that Ben Levine, manager of the Metropolitan AAU squad, was unable to secure rooms after having them reserved for Calvin Johniken, captain of the New York Junior Guard team; Alonzo Johnson, heavyweight champion; Roscoe Henson and Jerome Richardson, CYO and Metropolitan AAU middle and welterweight champions.

The hotel, however, was said to have readily admitted the white members of the New York championship team, Mike Terranlenta, Frank Sapone, Walter Seiden and Ben Levine, the manager.

The Negro participants in the tournament from various parts of the country who had been invited to take part in the National championships, had to stay in a small rooming house called the Garden House Hotel. Sat 4-27-46

Several months ago the Metropolitan AAU district association objected to Negro athletes participating in the National outdoor championships at Dallas, Texas, in June, because of southern discrimination. It did not, however, withdraw from the National boxing championship at Boston when the Negro boxers could not stay in the same hotel with their white teammates.

Canada Lee snubbed by Boston hotel

Los Angeles, Calif. Tribune

BOSTON — Boston newspapers last week reported that Canada Lee, who is making U.S. stage history by his impersonation of the white villain in "The Duchess of Malfi,' was refused accomodations in a Boston hotel to which other members of the "Malfi" cast were admitted. Sat. 10-5-46

While some who read the story were reportedy angry enough to urge court action, there were others who were inclined to view the story as a publicity stunt. Lee himself commented, "I am a man when confronted with racial rebuffs who will resent them as any red-blooded man should do, but I am not a publicity seeker rushing to right wrongs which to my knowledge never happened."

Realtors Use Detroit Gov't In Drive to Oust Negroes

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Saturday 6-29-46

By William Allan

DETROIT, June 28.—Twenty-two Negro families face eviction from their homes in the Eight Mile Road area here by action of the City Council collaborating with real estate outfits. The ruse of the City Council is that they want to use the land for building recreational centres.

The Daily Worker came into possession of facts showing that real estate salesmen who sold homes to whites around that community incorporated into the agreements a clause that within three years there would be no Negroes living in that community.

Now the real estate corporations together with their co-workers the City Council are starting the move to oust 22 Negro families as per their agreement with those they sold homes too.

Besides this downright discrimination policy and collaboration with real estate corporations, the news breaks that a milking of the city's funds by hired appraisers to the tune of several thousand dollars has occured.

Various land in that territory was scheduled to be appraised for condemnation. The city hires appraisers to do the job. Part of the work scheduled for the appraisers was appraising a three and half acre park bounded by Chippewa, Norfolk, Cherrylawn and Indiana Avenues.

All of the recent appraisal work of the city in the last year has been given to a small ring of real estate men. Sat. 6-29-46

TIDY SUMS

Norman Bayliss, a cousin and former real estate partner of Charles G. Oakman city councilman, was given the job of appraisal for which work he netted the tidy sum of $1,500 plus $50 a day for each day in court. This was only one of five similar appraisal jobs that Oakman's cousin Bayliss has picked off in the last year.

Although the assessed value of the property was only $37,000, Bayliss came into court supposedly to testify for the benefit of the city which sought to purchase the land and said that the valuation of the land was $91,000.. In other words Mr. Bayliss was proposing a net profit of $54,000 for the real estate companies. New York Daily

Bayliss is also the one who recommended that the 22 Negro families be evicted from their homes at Eight Mile road, also within that zone. No provision was made for residences for the evicted Negro families. Now the National Negro Congress, the Carver Progressive Club and the Ben Davis Club of the Communist Party have organized the people in the community, got a court order restraining the evictions until the people are properly housed.

In addition to that a number of playfields and recreations centers dot the community. There is absolutely no need for the building of new playgrounds or recreational centres. The whole game is to evict the Negro families from the community. The tipoff is that real estate sharks who sold homes some years ago there declared that within three years all Negro people would be evicted from the community.

FAMILY TIES

Now the city council of Detroit together with the real estate companies seeks to put into action the promise of the real estate outfits. And tied up with a proposed expenditure by the city council of $2,000,000 for purchase of the "recreational areas" comes the latest scandal that one of the members of the city council sees to it that his cousin and former real estate partner, Bayliss gets the juicy job of appraisal. Then Baylis gets $1,500 and $50 a day plus proposing that the city pay $54,000 more than the property is worth.

Bayliss' cousin, Councilman Charles G. Oakman is the councilman who some weeks ago introduced the resolution demanding a "fair trial" for the Nazi collaborationist Mikhailovich. Oakman is also the one who put the Council on record against picketing of an employer's home during the Detroit Steel Products strike, when the same employer refused for three months to meet with the union bargaining committee.

The National Negro Congress at a meeting last Sunday attended by 700 people is seeking a hearing before the Detroit City Council to bring into the light of day this thieving of the city's finances and collaboration with real estate sharks and discrimination against 22 Negro families.

JOE LOUIS' MOTHER SOCKS DETROIT EVICTION CRIME

Special to the Daily Worker

DETROIT, June 28.—Mrs. Lily Brooks, mother of heavyweight champion Joe Louis, is herself a champion of peoples rights. She will be the main speaker at 5 p.m. tomorrow at Eight Mile Road and Wisconsin, at a mass open air rally to protest the evictions by the Detroit City Council.

The reason the city gives for the eviction, now temporarily halted by a court order until the city finds suitable substitute residences, is that they need the land for "recreational purposes." This ridiculous excuse for ousting 18 families is torn to shreds by the local residents who point out that several recreational centers are in and around the community and are sufficient for the needs.

The real story behind this mass eviction is brought to light in the accompanying report.

COVENANT CASE IS HEARD BY HIGH COURT

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

The first of the NAACP's four Detroit restrictive covenant cases now before the State Supreme Court was argued in the state's highest tribunal on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week.

The case was that of Sipes vs. McGhee, involving a home in the Seebaldt and King subdivisions near Tireman ave., on the westside. The restrictive covenant was upheld in the lower court by decision of Circuit Judge Guy Miller.

Graves, Dent Argue

The NAACP was represented in the Supreme Court hearings by Attys. Willis M. Graves and Francis Dent, who presented the arguments to the court. Also represented in the case are the UAW-CIO, the Detroit Jewish Community Council, the Wolverine Bar Association, the National Lawyers Guild and the American Jewish Congress, which filed briefs amicus curiae (friend of the court). Sat.

The justices announced that they were taking the case under advisement, and requested additional briefs on questions raised by the attorneys. It is believed that a decision can be expected in February or March. 10-26-46

Determined Action

"We have nine cases of restrictive covenants altogether in Detroit," said Edward Swan, NAACP executive secretary, "and we will carry all of them to the State Supreme Court and then to the U. S. Supreme Court if we have to. We are determined to wipe out Detroit's ghetto walls, and know that the community is behind us in this effort.

"We have been asked why we have undertaken to fight so many similar cases. The answer is that we have taken cases of families that would have been evicted from their homes but for our defense. We don't intend to stand by and watch people evicted from their homes because of their race, or because of any restrictive covenant. Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

"The community expects us to protect individuals, as well as fight for principles. We hope that the community is willing to foot the bill for such a policy. Sat. 10-26-46

OMEGA NELSONS TOLD WHITES TO BURN AGAIN

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 8-10-46

Offer To Buy House Chronicle Campaign Rebuilding

By CHARLES WARTMAN

Warnings and veiled threats that their house will be burned again if they repair it were conveyed to the Omego Nelsons last week by Mrs. Irene Valintine, of 1362 Perry, who offered to buy the Nelson home.

According to Mrs. Rubina Nelson, Valintine came to her home last week and offered $2,500 for the property at 4255 17th st., which was burned by vandals on May 10.

Money Raised

The Michigan Chronicle has been sponsoring a campaign to provide funds to repair the property of Nelson, who is a 50 per cent disabled war veteran. To date over $1000 in cash and pledges have been raised for the project.

Conversations with officials of the Federal Housing Authority, indicate that agency may be able to help.

Mrs. Nelson said that Mrs. Valintine told her that she had been visiting in the neighborhood and had seen the house and thought that she would like to buy.

"She told me that she had talked with the neighbors next door and they had told her all about the incident," Mrs. Nelson said.

"Will Do Better"

"Mrs. Valintine then told me that she did not think that the neighbors had burned our house last May but that she had heard that if we attempted to repair it and move in they would do a better job than was done before," Mrs. Nelson continued.

Mrs. Nelson refused to sell her home.

Meanwhile Omega Nelson, ex-G.I. and 50 per cent disabled veteran, was rushed to the Veterans' hospital in Dearborn where he has been battling since last Tuesday for his sight.

Information concerning the statements made by Mrs. Valintine were passed on to George Schermer of the Detroit Interracial Council and then to the U. S. Supreme Court if we have to. We are determined to wipe out Detroit's ghetto walls, and know that the community is behind us in this effort.

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The case was opened before Judge Thomas J. Murphy in Circuit Court Sept. 26.

The issue is whether or not this restrictive covenant can be declared legal.

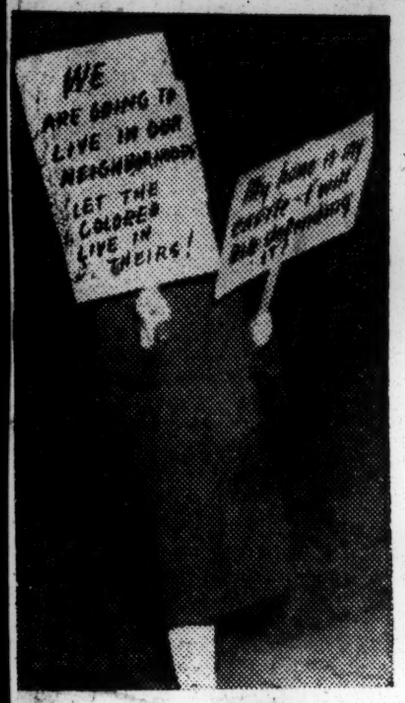
The John T. Milans moved to their present address about August, 1945. Since then they have been disturbed by their neighbors. Some of whom have been friendly.

An attempt of neighbors to force Mrs. Nettie Milan, colored wife of a white sergeant, to move from the residence of her husband on Burnette ave. Detroit. Arson squad has decided that the original burning of the Nelson home was the work of the same arsonists. Although the culprits have not apprehended they have been identified.

Neighbors Try To Force Wife From Husband's Home

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 8-10-46

THEY WERE ASHAMED TO SHOW THEIR FACES



The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 10-26-46

A group of whites who picketed the home of an unidentified white man at 4858 Underwood Sunday when they learned that he was selling his property on 16th st. to Negroes. So sure were they of their position, that they refused to show their faces.

Hate Placards Protest

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

House Sale To Negroes

Sat. 10-26-46

Democracy produces some of the strangest things.

The Chronicle photographer was attracted by a group of white Americans on Monday evening who were picketing the home of another white American, at 4853 Underwood.

Why? He had dared to sell his property on 16th st., to Negroes.

Freedom Of Assembly?

Although the house has not been sold as yet, residents of the neighborhood went to their homes and made signs reading as follows: "My Home Is My Castle, I Will Die Defending It," "Owner Is Selling House To Colored," "Let Colored People Live In Their Own Neighborhood." Others bore signs reading: "Unfair," and "Selling To Colored, Undercharging."

Although the signs were very prominent, none of the marchers were willing to show their faces to the cameraman.

Whites Jeer

Although the picketing was generally without incident, some of the passing whites jeered loudly at the picket line, inquiring to know what was so bad about colored people as neighbors.

Informed sources disclosed that a few Negro families are now living on 16th st.

'52 OLYMPICS IN DETROIT?

"END JIMCROW FIRST"—AYD

Provided that Negro athletes wouldn't be Jimcrowed in hotels and restaurants, the American Youth for Democracy would support the plan proposed by a group sportsmen for the 1952 Olympics to be held in Detroit. This was announced yesterday by Philip Schatz, the executive-secretary of Deroit's AYD, who pointed out that Detroit's Statute on Equal Accommodations (forbiding discrimination in public places) is being flagrantly violated every day, particularly in the restaurants of Detroit.

"Only if Detroit eliminates this undemocratic, unsportsmanlike blot in its city life, will the invitation to the athletes of the world be morally justified and a dozen times more welcome. Only then will the idea of holding the Olympic games in Detroit receive the enthusiastic and unanimous support of all citizens of Detroit."

The AYD, though it believes that holding the Olympic Games in Detroit in '52 would be a great event in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Detroiters, nonetheless insists that support of such a project "means a drive right now to enforce the existing Statute on Equal Accommodations." Only after a successful drive against jimcrow, said the AYD, would Detroit be able to invite athletes to a city really practicing democracy.

Mate Barred, but White Wife Can Live in House

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

LANSING, Mich. — (ANP) — The National Bar Association last week filed a motion and brief as "a friend of the court" in the case between the Northwest Civic Association of Detroit and a group of colored home buyers and white sellers and other white owners vs. Orsell McGhee, colored, and his wife, Minnie S. McGhee, white.

Testimony of the plantiffs was to the effect that property in their section was restricted under an agreement entered into in 1934 against occupancy by colored and that McGhee, through his white wife, purchased the property in violation of the covenant.

Attorneys for the defendants termed the covenant invalid on several grounds, including its constitutionality under the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Sat. 11-23-46

Claims Covenant Valid

The Northwest Civic Association sought to prove that the Security Land Company sold individual lots in the sub-division in question in 1913, and purchasers of the lots entered into a restrictive agreement.

Otis E. Sheldon, the group charged, purchased and occupied a lot in the sub-division in violation of the covenant. Sheldon's defense made an issue on the question of his race and validity of the covenant's enforcement.

Both cases are being appealed in the Michigan Supreme Court from hearings held in Wayne County Circuit Court, with Judges Guy A. Miller and Arthur A. Webster presiding.

Appeal Brief Cited

In the brief and motion prepared by counsel for the National Bar Association, Earl B. Dickerson, president, declared:

"Each of these cases presents an issue which affects the civil and political rights of a large body of citizens of the State of Michigan and the United States.

"Here, a judicial decision of a State court in Michigan gives force, by State action, to the schematic segregation of citizens on the basis of race or color.

Constitutionality Involved

"This court is asked to decide, by virtue of the appeal from the decision of the lower court, whether enforcement by the State courts of a sub-division racial restrictive covenant, violates the prohibitions of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution: and

"Whether it enforces as a matter of Michigan State law, restrictions against use or occupancy of land within a large subdivision in the city of Detroit, under guise of enforcement of a mere private agreement between individuals."

The National Bar Association meets in Detroit, Nov. 29 to Dec. 1

Hotel Bias Hits Southernaires

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

ST. PAUL, Minn.—With their hotel reservations cancelled at the last minute when their racial identity was known, was the second act of gross discrimination handed the Southernaires Quartette in the mid-west in one week.

Prior to the incident here, members of the nationally known organization were forced out of their rooms at a Dubuque, Iowa, hotel and had to seek the privacy of a resident to finish dressing.

Relating the Dubuque experience here, Ray Yeates, tenor, said that when the hotel manager discovered they were colored he ordered all of them out of the hotel. 5-25-46

Accommodatd by Students

Yeates said: "He wouldn't let us dress for the concert. He told us to get out right away, and that he didn't care what we did about it." Sat.

Following their concert, white students at the University of Dubuque offered Yeates and Lowell Peters accommodations for the night. Other citizens invited William Edmundson, Spencer Odom and J. S. Tony to their homes.

In St. Paul, reservations had been made, but when the quartet arrived no trace of the transaction could be found and the group had to seek accommodations elsewhere.

St. Paul Police Take Action:

Insulting Sign Appears In Window of House Next to New Home

Minneapolis Spokesman
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Fri 8-9-46

A sign "Niggers Not Allowed," conspicuously placed in the window of a home next to the one purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bradley at 60 Lyton Place, St. Paul, was the "welcome" greeting Mrs. Bradley when she visited her new house, last Sunday morning, to look over remodeling being done.

The sign was in the window of the home occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Czar, 58 Lyton Place. Mrs. Bradley reported the matter to the police. She states that on Sunday afternoon when she returned to the house, the sign next door was not in the window.

On Tuesday morning when Mrs. Bradley visited the house, there was no sign, but when her husband went to the house to do some work on Tuesday afternoon, a sign, "No Niggers Wanted" was put up in the window of the Czar home, and new screen door frames and a window pane had been broken in the Bradley house. Mrs. Bradley said Wednesday, that detectives told her it looked as if beebee gun shots had smashed the window glass.

Mrs. Bradley also said that when she went out to the house last Saturday, Mr. Czar called her "vile names."

The matter has been placed in the hands of the city and county attorney and Chief of Police Tierney. Mrs. Ruth Abernathy, representing the St. Paul Council of Human Relations, is also helping in the probe of the affair.

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley purchased the home from a real estate agent over a year ago, but the tenants who formerly occupied it didn't move until July 15. The Bradleys are now living at 254 East 14th St.

59 1946

Missouri

Negroes Win Jim Crow Suit By Whites In Ohio

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-31-46

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—A restrictive covenant suit here to prevent Negro ownership and occupancy of a residence in this city was declared invalid and the suit decided in favor of the Negro property owners last week in circuit court.

Circuit Judge Eugene J. Sartorius ruled the covenant had not been signed by all property owners in the area and that the document contained technical flaws.

He therefore held that Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Clarke were entitled to go on living in the property they had bought around the corner from white property owners, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Woytus, who had sought to remove them from the area.

59 1946 New York

Will Geer Finds a Real 'Whitman Avenue'

Daily Worker
N.Y.N.Y.
59
6-6-46
Daily Worker
New York N.Y.
6—6—46 Tr.

Canada Lee and Will Geer in a scene from Maxine Wood's "On Whitman Avenue" now playing at the Cort Theater.

By Louise Mitchell

There's more truth than play-acting in the current Broadway production **On Whitman Avenue** for Will Geer, leading actor of the play.

Each night, as the curtain rises at the Cort Theatre he is reminded of a drama now going on in ugly fury at St. Albans, L. I. and Spring Valley, N. Y. On the stage you see the struggle of a Negro veteran trying to find a decent place for his family. He is hounded by neighbors ready to commit violence to keep their property lily-white and high-priced.

"In my own community," said Geer yesterday in his dressing room back stage, "we have a similar situation."

A Negro veteran and his family have rented an apartment from a druggist in the Spring Valley residential section, Geer related in a slow, but precise manner. A section of the community is boycotting the local druggist.

In **On Whitman Avenue** Geer plays the role of a druggist whose young daughter rents an apartment to a Negro war hero. In the clash that eventually drives the Negroes back into a Jimcrow slum, the druggists' family is broken with the daughter leaving home and the father taking his daughter's side against his prejudiced wife.

Geer lives on a farm with his wife Herta and two children on a farm five miles from Spring Valley which is also a half dozen miles from Hillburn where the Negro children were once thwarted from attending the local public school.

In the Addisleigh Park section of St. Albans, Mrs. Sophie Rubin is being prevented from selling her home to Samuel Richardson, a Negro merchant, because of a restricted covenant she signed in 1939.

KLU KLUX KLAN DISTRICT OF ST. ALBANS

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WARNING:

TO NEGROES ENTERING ST. ALBANS

BEWARE

KLU KLUX KLAN

Sat. 8-10-46

STAGE PLAY ABOUT JIMCROW DUPLICATED IN HIS COMMUNITY

Klan Threatens N.Y. Residents

The Afro-America Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — Two days after the Ku Klux Klan was outlawed in New York State, several families living in the Addisleigh Park section of St. Albans District, received cards of warning from the organization. Sat. 8-10-46

Police Commissioner Wallander's officers are investigating a possible revival of the order in the section which was a KKK center during prohibition days.

Cards Found at Night

Among those who received the notices were Dr. John A. Singleton, dentist, and a member of the Mayor's Committee on Unity; Dr. William H. Pleasant, a physician and Charles A. Collier Jr., executive secretary of the City-wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem.

Collier, who lives at 174-15 Linden Blvd. said he found his card as he was locking the door for the night and took it around to Dr. Singleton who greeted him with, "Did you get one of those cards too?"

A visit through the neighborhood revealed that at least six families including an engineer, building contractor and social worker had received notices the same night.

Dr. Singleton then notified Capt. Gallagher of the 103d Precinct, who after a preliminary investigation expressed the belief that the cards were sent by some disgruntled white resident to express his resentment against colored property owners and that he used the Klan label.

Collier, who has lived in the neighborhood for seven years, said he was more angered than frightened by the incident. He proposed that the group meet with other colored and white neighbors and work out a plan to meet the situation and other attempts at intimidation.

Biased Convenant

In this same area, a lawsuit is pending which is the result of a Queens Court decision which upheld a restrictive convenant against colored occupancy of a house on 177th St. in May.

Police are examining the cards for fingerprints and if the senders are identified, they can be charged with disorderly conduct or malicious mischief; the Attorney General can prosecute under the Civil Rights law and the FBI can charge violation of postal statutes.

Steelworkers Get Pledge of Future Hotel JC Ban

Sat 5-25-46

afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By VINCENT TUBBS
AFRO Staff Correspondent

ATLANTIC CITY —The solemn pledge of President Philip Murray of the United Steel Workers of America, CIO, was given a committee Friday that never again would the union convention program suggest segregated housing facilities for delegates.

Sat 5-25-46

A committee of colored delegates obtained the promise from Mr. Murray, following heated protest over the wording of a convention program which gave a list of hotels open to all delegates. At the bottom of the list several hotels listed were designated for "colored delegates only."

Mr. Murray told the committee, headed by Boyd L. Wilson of Pittsburgh, a member of the union's executive board, that he felt machinery to handle cases and questions of discrimination needed strengthening and promised to give the subject his attention.

While President Murray was assuring the delegation that hotel discrimination issue would never occur again, David J. McDonald, the union's executive secretary-treasurer, responsible for the act would not give such assurance.

Instead, answering Tim Smith of Lackawanna, N.Y., a delegate, he said only that all hotels were open and that the advertising of hotels 'exclusively for colored persons" was for information only.

5-25-46

Endorse Equality for All

Meanwhile, while delegates both colored and white, massed forces to fight the practice, at least in the future, the convention adopted 42 resolutions embodying full equality for all. Among other things, the convention:

Urged a school lunch program without discrimination; okeyed Bittner's operation dixie; demanded the end of the Wood-Rankin Committee; supported guaranteed annual wage;

Launched an active fight against reactionary forces in Congress; urged Congressional action on the 65-cent minimum wage proposal; supported the continuance and proposed extensive improvements in conditions for veterans.

Following pre-convention rum- ors that an anticipated 40 colored delegates were to be housed, dor- mitory fashion, in a local YMCA banquet hall, it turned out that an overwhelming majority of 60-odd delegates are accommodated in facilities set aside "exclusively for colored."

Moreover, while Philip Murray, president, stood before 2,600 delegates, Tuesday morning, telling them the CIO stands "foresquare against racial or religious intolerance," there smoldered among a considerable number of colored and white delegates a hot ember of "disgust, discontent and offense" at machinations relegating the majority of colored delegates to jim crow facilities.

Raised on Floor

5-25-46

Then, in the first open declaration on the issue, Jacob Blake of Gary, Ind., Local 1014, took the floor during the afternoon session and expressed disbelief at discrimination inferred in the union's official rail and hotel directory and the issue has been temporarily passed over.

His remarks followed those of several other delegates speaking in support of a resolution to support the CIO drive to organize the South where it is expected countless thousands, many colored, will be "emancipated from economic serfdom."

The rattling of this skeleton—USWA closet—caused the steamroll a vote on while at least 10 question" were audible

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 98

But, among the 60 delegates, representing more than 30,000 of United Steel's nearly 100,000 colored members, the issue is not dead.

Whites Lend Aid

Countless sympathetic whites are aiding and abetting the cause of those who contend that conditions leading to their encouncement in the Liberty, Lincoln and Wright's Hotels are the machinations of reactionary union officials, rather than the refusal of local white hotels to accept colored guests.

Among the more drastic proposals has been one to seek the ouster of Executive Secretary Treasurer McDonald, who distributed the information sheet which sets aside (at bottom) the colored hostelries.

However, MacDonald states that the inclusion of colored hotels was made because of an effort not to discriminate against them.

"When we prepare for a convention," he said, "we first determine if there will be any discrimination in any hotels; then we try to see that there will be none against any hotels.

"These colored hotels, knowing we will have colored delegates, ask us for business and we include them on the sheet for information purposes only.

Resents Talk

"Whoever started this talk is guilty of deliberately and maliciously distorting the facts," he declared.

A check with managers of the colored hotels revealed, however, that none had requested any delegates, though one manager stated that his house is filled through the good offices of a friend who recruited guests for him.

Vincent D. Sweeny, Steelworkers' public relations director, adamantly refused to discuss the matter, saying higher officials had stated union policy earlier in the day.

His reference is to President Murray's adopted statement of policy in which it is set forth that USWA "asks no man his national origin, his color, his religion or his beliefs."

The statement also holds that the union "has not been and will not be an instrument of repression . . . but a vehicle for economic and social progress"—this in answer to critics who have charged there is division and conflict within the CIO.

Principle at Issue

Contending that this statement answers all charges of bias in the CIO, Mr. Sweeney also pointed out Mr. MacDonald's answer to Blake's "disbelief" in which he said colored delegates are guests of colored hotels by their own choice, since they might have obtained quarters wherever they chose.

To support MacDonald in this there are probably a dozen colored in boardwalk hotels, but the dissenters contend that the principle they argue is the discriminatory inference incorporate in the designation of facilities "exclusively for colored."

It is recalled that United Steel is the only one among 40 CIO affiliated unions guilty of including such information in its convention call information sheet.

Likewise, it is recalled that the same information was disseminated at the 1944 Cleveland Convention when the Majestic Hotel operated by Larry Payne threatened a $25,000 suit on grounds of misrepresentation because the Majestic does not cater to colored exclusively.

Housing Trust Airing Up; Jimcrow Policies Bared

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Sun. 7-15-46

By Claudia Jones

Thirty-seven New York banks and financial companies are facing Federal indictment for monopolistic real estate practices, which include Jimcrow housing. This was revealed by Eric Sevareid, CBS radio announcer, recently, who said the Justice Department has for six months been investigating these corporations, whose operations total $125,000,000 yearly.

While the Justice Department is putting finishing touches on the case, scheduled to break in the courts soon, Wall Street banking interests are desperately trying to prevent an indictment, it was revealed this week.

The banks being probed have, it is alleged, collaborated to restrict certain racial groups in obtaining decent housing by combining on rental scales and interest rates and by controlling the credit of Negroes, thus blocking them from moving into selected areas which the concerns control.

A central clearing office, called the "Mortgage Conference of New York," located at 14 Wall St. of which Harold Rutgan is head, is charged with such practices. Each one of the 37 members bears a portion of the operating expenses, it is held. They seek, it is charged, to end competition on mortgage loans and interest payments.

Large maps have been seized from all the Wall Street offices, said to show every block in New York City and the exact number of non-white residents in each block. It is estimated by Justice investigators that during the past five years, this group has prevented construction on some 2,000 low cost dwellings in Brooklyn alone.

The real source of restrictive covenants, slum dwelling areas, high rents and sub-standard communities now stands exposed.

A case in point is the Metropolitan Insurance Co.'s Stuyvesant Town, a low-rent housing development restricted to the use of whites only, begun two years or more ago Since the protests concerning its policy, the City Council led by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell and Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, adopted an ordinance to refuse to exempt from taxes housing projects which are not open to all citizens. The present exposure shows how this law is being nullified by big banks.

The 37 firms under investigation dominate the 10 billion dollar New York City mortgage market. But now that the facts are to be smoked out into the open it will be difficult, sympathetic observers point out to bring about a grand jury indictment and conviction of the concerns.

It will take strong pressure from the people to break up this powerful mortgage trust.

Demand Homes: Charles A. Collins, candidate for New York State Senate, leads a demonstration of United Negro and Allied Veterans demanding the opening up of scores of boarded up houses in Harlem.

Daily Worker N.Y.
Mon. 7-15-46

Barbarism Flare in Greenwich Village Terrorizes New Yorkers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 8-24-46

NEW YORK — Colored citizens of New York, shocked by news during recent weeks of Southern barbarism in the lynching and terrorizing of Dixie colored people, discovered with grave apprehension growing signs of the lynch spirit in the city's Greenwich Village section.

Reports from a reliable source have it that numerous beatings of colored people in that area are known by the Village police, who further can identify the hoodlums who are organized to "keep 'n—s' out of the Village."

Entertainers Attacked

On Aug. 3, Sarah Vaughn, entertainer, George Treadwell, musician, and Naomi Wright, matron, employees of Cafe Society, popular Village night club, were surrounded by a mob of hoodlums after leaving a hamburger diner.

While Miss Vaughan was bruised, the group managed to get into the subway before they were seriously hurt and immediately lodged a complaint with the police. Miss Vaughn says she can positively identify one of her assailants.

On Aug. 11, Arthur Smith was chased by a gang of men on his way from a restaurant to the subway. His report to a policeman at the time brought no protection. Instead the officer got into a police car and left Smith standing unprotected.

In all instances of these attacks, the police have taken no action as yet to protect the victims. It is believed that the blame for this terrorism can be pinned on one particular group in the neighborhood.

Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, expressed concern over the situation which was developing less than a week after he had been assured by Police Commissioner Wallander that the rights of colored people in the city would be protected.

Government Defender Sues Biased NY Companies

Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-17-46

By MAJOR ROBINSON

NEW YORK—Civil action, designed to break up a group of banks and insurance companies engaging in restricting Negroes and Spanish-speaking persons to certain residential districts in the city, was instituted last week by U.S. Justice Departments officials here.

Though a Federal grand jury last week refused to return an indictment, the Department of Justice filed a civil complaint, on the jury's recommendations, against the Mortgage Conference of New York, the Savings Bank Trust Company of New York and 37 members of the conference charging the defendants with a conspiracy to control mortgage lending in the New York area. This, the complaint said, was a violation of anti-trust laws.

Besides fixing minimum interest rates and uniform amortization terms, the complaint continued, the defendants sought to eliminate competition for mortgage loans by establishing uniform appraisal procedures, agreeing to adopt uniform practices in dealing with certain groups of mortgagors and with brokers, and agreeing to exclude minority groups from certain areas.

Maps of City

Maps of each section of the city were prepared and distributed to each member of the association showing blocks which were heavily populated by Negroes and Spanish-speaking groups, the Justice Department said. Loans on properties in these blocks were not made, the complaint charged, and the group also contrived to prevent owners in other sections from permitting Negroes to move into them.

This practice, the charges said, compelled minority groups to pay higher rents than charged in other sections for comparable residences and new construction also was retarded.

In its suit the government asks the court to dissolve the group and enjoin them from engaging in any of its unlawful practices.

It was learned that the moneyed Wall Streeters in the conference brought pressure to bear in Washington to prevent a criminal case being handed down against them. The investigation of their activities began several months ago by the Anti-Trust Division.

Conference Answer

In a formal statement the Mortgage Conference said "The members of the Mortgage Conference have many millions of dollars invested in mortgages on properties tenanted by Negroes. They are continuing to make such loans. They have commitments outstanding on a housing project in Harlem that is estimated to cost over $9,000,000. It is, therefore, not true that loans upon or investments in properties owned or tenanted by particular racial groups are discouraged by conference members."

A survey of Harlem real estate owners show that they believe that if the control the conference exerts on mortgage lending is broken by court action, many new housing projects would result.

SUIT CHARGES PLOT IN MORTGAGE LOANS

Times New York, N.Y.

Department of Justice Files Action Against Conference Here Under Trust Laws

Wed. 8-7-46

SAVINGS BANKS ACCUSED

Defendants Issue Statement Questionnig Whether They Are Under Act's Provisions

On the recommendation of a Federal grand jury, which itself had refused to return an indictment, the Department of Justice filed a civil complaint yesterday against the Mortgage Conference of New York, the Savings Banks Trust Company of New York and thirty-seven members of the Conference, charging the defendants with a conspiracy to control mortgage lending in the New York area in violation of anti-trust laws. Wed 8-7-46

The complaint alleges that the defendants fixed mortgage interest rates and amortization policies, pooled information on mortgage applicants and prevented new construction that might lessen income from real estate on which members held mortgages.

The control was used, the Government charges, to exclude Negroes and Spanish-speaking groups from certain areas by withholding financing and has prevented construction of "hundreds of six-story elevator apartments, particularly in the Borough of Brooklyn." The defendants, according to the complaint, handle 60 per cent of the mortgages in the metropolitan area.

Rutan Answers Sharply

The filing of the suit brought a sharp statement from Harold Rutan, president of the Mortgage Conference, who, emphasizing the fiduciary trust of banks toward their depositors, assailed the Justice Department for branding as "conspiracy" what the State calls "cooperation."

Elliott V. Bell, State Superintendent of Banks, declared he had no knowledge of the abuses alleged in the suit, and said he had been assured that the "alleged violations occurred prior to Jan. 1, 1943," when he took office. "At the present time," he added, "there is no lack of competition among banks and other mortgage lending institutions in this State."

Among the thirty-seven members of the Mortgage Conference which are named as co-defendants are twenty-eight New York savings banks and mortgage companies and nine insurance companies handling real estate mortgages.

The Mortgage Conference was organized in 1934 as a continuation of an informal association previously existing under the same name, and operates on a non-profit basis, according to the complaint.

Company Organized in 1933

The Savings Banks Trust Company, located at 14 Wall Street, was organized in 1933 to operate as a central banking institution and general trust company for mutual savings banks in the State. About March 1, 1945, the Government alleges, the company took possession of the records and equipment of the Mortgage Conference and since then has paid all of the expenses of the Conference the services of which were made available to all mutual savings banks in the State without charge.

Besides fixing minimum interest rates and uniform amortization terms, the defendants, the complaint says, sought to eliminate competition for mortgage loans by establishing uniform appraisal procedures, agreeing to stabilize rents, agreeing to adopt uniform practices in dealing with certain groups of mortgagors and with brokers, and agreeing to exclude from certain areas minority groups. Wed. 8-7-46

The defendants exchanged opinions on "the value and loan suitability of real estate on which mortgage loans were sought," the complaint alleges, and reported commitments to the Mortgage Conference, which issued weekly reports listing them.

Race Bias is Charged

They also, it is charged, "prepared, published, kept current and distributed maps of each section of New York City showing blocks on which Negroes and Spanish-speaking persons resided; refrained from making mortgage loans on properties in such blocks, and induced owners of real estate in certain sections of New York City to refuse to permit Negroes and Spanish-speaking persons to move into such sections."

The effect of the conspiracy, it is alleged, has been to deprive prospective borrowers "of the benefits of normal competition in securing a mortgage on their property after any one of the defendants has reported its willingness to make a loan." Wed. 8-7-46

The discrimination allegedly practiced against minority groups, it is asserted, has compelled these groups to pay higher rents than charged in other sections for comparable dwellings. The control over mortgages, it is further charged, has reduced the volume of building materials coming into the State.

Asks Dissolution of Conference

The Government asks that the Mortgage Conference be dissolved and that the defendants be enjoined from entering into agreements for the exchange of information on prospective loans and the fixing of uniform interest rates and practices. The suit also seeks to eliminate agreements aimed at "the segregation of any race," or agreements "to restrict or limit the erection of new structures."

James C. Wilson, chief of the New York office of the anti-trust division of the Justice Department, said that a Federal grand jury was convened last June 11 to consider the mortgage situation. Although it failed to return an indictment it adopted a resolution recommending a civil suit "to correct the conditaions found to exist." Times

The Mortgage Conference statement on the suit said that the association was formed "during the 1932-1933 depression as a means of stemming the disastrous tide of destruction which swept New York real estate investments beginning in 1933 and extending several years thereafter." Wed. 8-7-46

"It was continued in existence to improve mortgage lending practices and standards by cooperative action and to place the mortgage lending business in New York City on a more scientific basis for the good both of the lender and the borrower," the statement continued. New York, N.Y.

Asserting that banks have been charged repeatedly by State banking authorities "to co-operate so as to prevent unwise and imprudent mortgage investments," the statement questioned whether "fiduciary institutions, cooperating to improve mortgage-lending practices exclusively in New York, fall under the provision of the Anti-trust act."

"We believe that a fuller understanding of the facts by the Department of Justice will make it clear that no injury resulted to anyone," the statement continued, "and that there was no intent to fix prices, restrain trade or to practice discrimination."

Conference members have many millions of dollars invested in mortgages on properties tenanted by Negroes and are continuing to make such loans, the statement said, adding, "They have commitments outstanding on a housing project in Harlem that is estimated to cost over $9,000,000."

List of the Defendants

Members of the Mortgage Conference named as defendants were:

The Aetna Life Insurance Company, Bankers Trust Company, Bank for Savings, Bowery Savings Bank, Bronx Savings Bank, Brooklyn Savings Bank, Brooklyn Trust Company, Canada Life Assurance Society, Central Savings Bank, Chase National Bank of the City of New York, City Bank Farmers Trust Company, Dime Savings Bank of Brooklyn, Dollar Savings Bank of the City of New York.

Dry Dock Savings Institution, Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank, Elmpire City Savings Bank, Franklin Savings Bank of the City of New York, Greenwich Savings Bank, Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Guardian Life Insurance Company of America, Home Life Insurance Company, Home Title Guaranty Company, Irving Trust Company, Lawyers Mortgage Corporation, Manhattan Savings Bank, Manufacturers Trust Company, Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, New York Life Insurance Company, New York Trust Company, North River Savings Bank, Prudential Insurance Company of America, Seamen's Bank for Savings, Title Guarantee and Trust Company, Union Central Life Insurance Company, Union Square Savings Bank and West Side Savings Bank.

Official Expounds Evils of Restrictive Covenant

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—The restrictive abomination," by covenant and the practice of trying to assure, by private contract, a so-called lily-white community, Mr. Katz, who addressed a forum group at the Harlem Public Library, said further, in discussing restrictive covenants, that such practices constitute "a blood pact of the pagan kind, and such a pact is an abomination because it is based upon a lie."

He stated that "a restrictive covenant is not merely an abomination, but is writing a lie and spreading his mythology to wage war against all civilization."

Drafting Legislation

Mr. Katz pointed out that any person who enters into a real estate contract, the terms of "which deprive my children or yours of the opportunity to associate with whom they will, is writing an immoral and anti-social lie. It "that person is nurturing his own

children on false principles and racism, the kind of foundation upon which no civilized society can last."

Mr. Katz said the American Jewish Congress, at present, is drafting legislation to make illegal any new Stuyvesant towns in any real estate development, as part of an effort to prohibit segregation and the exclusion of colored people.

"We believe that the American public, when properly informed as to the evils and general consequences of restrictive and discrimination practices, its opinions will rally to support democratic action which may be launched by the NAACP, the Urban League or the congress," he concluded.

59 1946 New York

Will Sue B'klyn Hotel for Denying Pool to Negroes

The St. George Hotel in Brooklyn will be sued for barring Negroes from its swimming pool. Evidence that the hotel is violating the law against discrimination was obtained Tuesday night by members of the Kenyoneers Inter - racial Club, of 821 Union St., Brooklyn. This evidence will be used as the basis for a legal test of the hotel's to be instituted by this club, as well as by the American Youth for Democracy and the United Veterans for Equality, a new organization of Negro veterans.

The Kenyoneers, on the night in question, organized a swimming party to which they invited Negro members of the Veterans Organizing Committee. White watchers were placed near the ticket window to check on all others admitted.

Two white members of the Kenyonners bought tickets to the swimming pool and went swimming, without any trouble. Following these were five Negroes, Misses Marilyn Coleman and Geneva Martin, Kenyoneers, and Harry W. Howard, Clifford T. Johnson and another unidentified Negro, all Negro veterans.

These five were taken from the line and told they would have to be a member of the Swimming Club before they could swim in the pool. They filled out application blanks and were told not to return until they were sent membership cards, that it would take maybe a day or maybe a week, there was a long list waiting.

This discrimination is a clear violation of the law, and it is punishable by a $500 fine or three months in jail or both.

50 ENTER UNDISTURBED

Herbert Malbow of the AYD said, after watching for a short while: "I saw at least 50 white people enter the pool without any trouble at all. At least seven of those people asked the guard if they had to be members of the club to swim. The answer was no."

Two white members of the Kenyoneers were questioned, and told to fill out membership cards, but were told to buy tickets and they went into the pool.

Later three more Negroes, two of whom are veterans, Edna Glasgow, Earl Parks and Wilfred Sherington, attempted to enter the pool. They were sent to fill out membership blanks, and told to return when the Swimming Club sent their cards.

Two white youth just happened to get in line just at that time, and had to be sent to fill out membership blanks also. They were indignant, and one of them said: "What's this for? We never did this before. Must be because there's colored people here. There were never any colored people here before."

The names of the youth are Lawrence Divadio, 383 Atlantic St., and James DeLucia, 81 Pacific St. The group of Negroes took their names from the applications.

The white youth returned to the ticket window and asked the guard there: "What's all this? We didn't do this last week." "Sh-h," the guard answered, "get in line and get your tickets." They went swimming, too.

Muriel Rodgers, white, later bought a membership book, at a reduced rate, without any trouble, and did not fill out an application. She, too, went in swimming. All the white people were admitted, but no Negroes were allowed in.

Bars Negroes In Lily-White Addisleigh Pk.

Some of the residents in the Addisleigh Park section of St. Albans, Queens aren't interested in having Samuel Richardson as a neighbor. Not that they know anything about how well Mr. Richardson will keep up the house and grounds of the red brick home at 112-03 177th St., which he wants to buy from Mrs. Sophie Rubin, but they don't like the fact that he is a Negro.

Two home owners in the section are attempting to obtain an injunction against Mrs. Rubin, restricting her from closing a contract with Mr. Richardson.

A part payment has already been made on the home by Richardson, who owns the property behind the bungalow, which he has already bought from the Rubins.

Harold F. Kemp of 112-59 117th St., and John H. Lutz, 112-20 177th St., are the home owners seeking to enforce a jim crow covenant which was signed by Mrs. Rubin in 1939. At that time, the signers promised not to sell their property to anyone who was not of "white or Caucasian race."

Two Negro residents already live in the block, however, one of them being Mrs. Leah Hemachandra, who stated that she thought all such trouble had quieted down in the section.

Approximately 30 Negroes live in the section, including screen star Lena Horne, who owns a home there, and Dr. Alphonse Heningberg, administrator secretary of the Department of Welfare.

a house to any person except those of "the white or Caucasian race."

Mr. and Mrs. Rubin told the Defender that since signing the pact they have definitely changed their opinion of Negroes.

"If Negroes were good enough to die and sacrifice their lives for their country in World War II, they are good enough to live anywhere they please," they declared.

"If a decision is rendered by the judge unfavorable to our selling the house to Mr. Richardson, then I will take the case to the highest courts possible," Mrs. Rubin added. "To my way of thinking, the case should have been thrown out of court."

Asked To See Play

It is reported that residing on the same street where Kemp and Lutz object to Richardson buying are other Negroes including Dr. Alphonse Heninburg and Mrs. Leatha Hemachandra, community counsellor for the Board of Education.

Meanwhile, Canada Lee, producer of the play "On Whitman Avenue," whose theme parallels that of the Richardson case, wired Kemp and Lutz inviting them to be his guests at the show. In his wire, Lee said their actions would probably be reconsidered after witnessing the play.

American Jewish Congress Joins Fight On Covenants

NEW YORK—The American Jewish Congress last week joined the fight to outlaw racial restrictive covenants here after two white property owners in Queens, L. I., sought to enforce an anti-Negro pact signed in 1939.

Two weeks ago the Jewish Congress in Chicago gave active support in the legal battle on Jim Crow housing pacts being staged by the NAACP.

The Congress, currently in convention here, will petition the state Supreme Court to do away with such agreements, said Edwin S. Newman, of the AJC's Commission on Law. "They restrain free sale of property and increase racial tension and intolerance," he added.

Newman's statement was made to reporters in the corridor of Queens County Court after Judge Charles Froessel had heard arguments by two white residents in the exclusive Addisleigh Park section of St. Albans, Queens. They are trying to block the sale of a six-room bungalow to Samuel Richardson, Harlem merchant.

Final decision was reserved on the matter by Judge Froessel who said, "' is unfortunate that we have to have situations like this."

The biased dwellers, Harold Kemp and John Lutz had sought an injunction to prevent Mrs. Sophie Rubin and her husband from closing a contract on the sale of the house to Richardson. They contended that when Mrs. Rubin first moved into the district in 1939 she had signed the agreement promising not to sell, rent or give

'Restricted' Billboard Mocks Roll of Honor

MANY WHO STORMED BEACHES OF NORMANDY ARE TOLD TO STAY OUT OF WOODLAND BEACH COLONY

The Worker
New York, N.Y.

By Louise Mitchell

In Staten Island you can find two billboards which tell the story of pride and prejudice in postwar America.

One with hundreds of names records the men and women who went from Woodland Beach to the fiery fronts of Europe and the Pacific. The other billboard commands some of the heroes to stay out—dead or alive. They are not wanted!

Covell, Cashman, Weingarten, Heavey, Gustafson, Gillespie, Palazzo, Orlowski, O'Brien, Tamburri. These were some who said yes to their country's appeal for help.

Sun 6-16-46

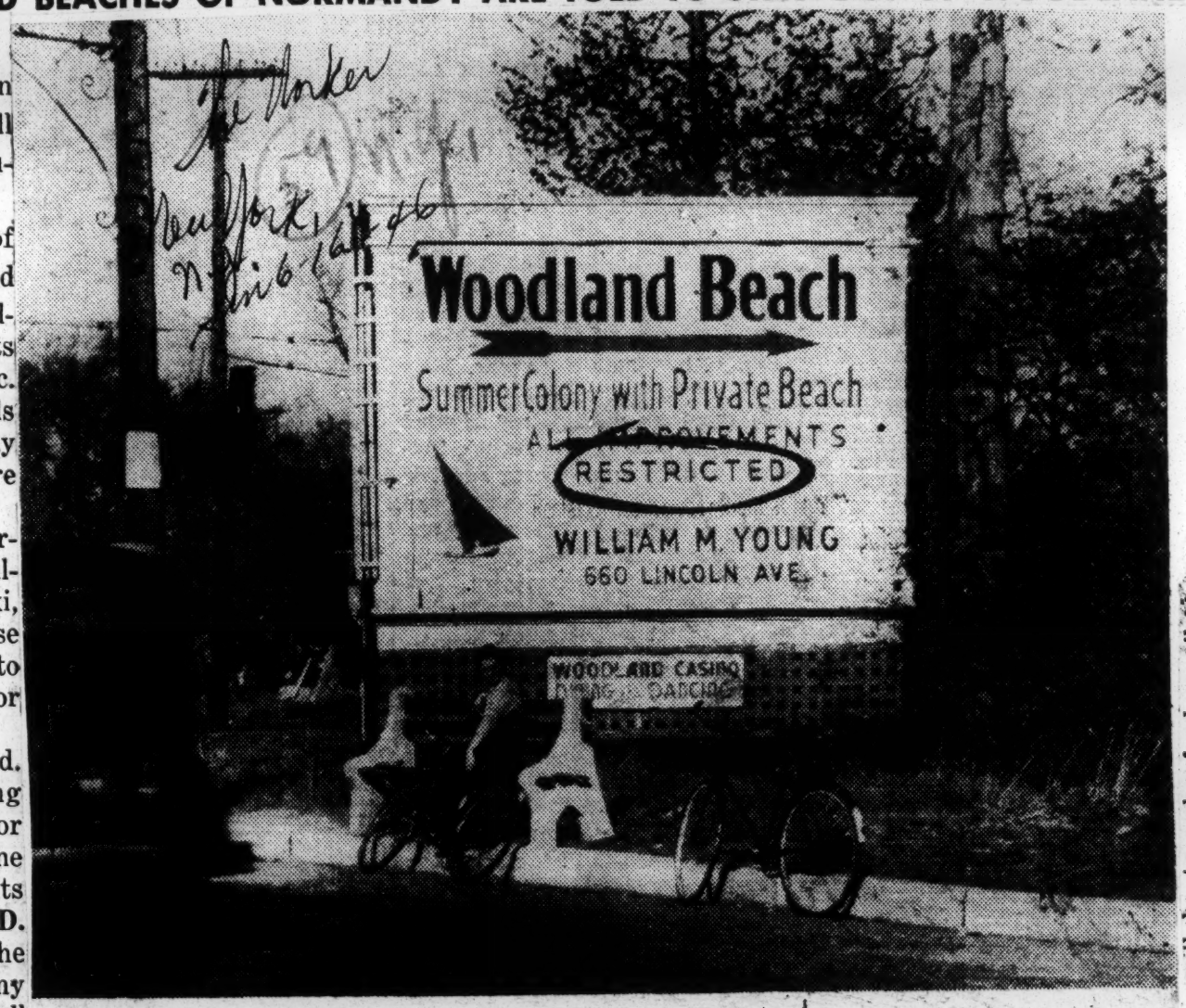
But smack on Hylan Blvd. and Lincoln Ave., a long stone's throw from the honor roll, stands a sign, the shame of Woodland Beach, with its large letters, **RESTRICTED.** The billboard proclaims the virtues of a summer colony with private beach and all improvements.

A trip to Woodland Beach last week revealed that many improvements for just decent living were still needed. In the words of the taxi driver, "They used to charge $300 for a bungalow that now gets $1,000. And look at the wrecks."

In the renting office of the Woodland Beach colony I found owner William M. Young, a soft-spoken man who was fast to say the colony was full-up.

Questioned about the use of the word "restricted," he arrogantly asserted that a landlord "has the right to rent to whomever he pleases."

"We have only good Americans here," he added poisonously.



ENEMY'S BEACHHEAD ON THE HOME FRONT: This billboard on Staten Island brutally tells returning heroes they will have to pass Hitler's "racial" test if they want to rent a bungalow in the "restricted" Woodland Beach colony.

Covell, Cashman, Weingarten, Heavey, Gustafson, Gillespie, Palazzo, Funk, Orlowski, O'Brien, Tamburri—some of them are not good enough to spend the summer at Woodland Beach.

Discrimination on the basis of color, race or creed in places of public use is forbidden by the Civil Rights Law. Taverns, inns, road houses and hotels are forbidden to use the term "restricted" in their advertisements and circulars. They get around the law now by inserting items like "churches" and "three minutes to churches," to tell their customers that no Jews or "furriners" are allowed.

But there are certain kinds of resorts, like Woodland Beach with its private beach, that do not belong in the classification of public accommodations. This group can continue to use, it seems, the Hitlerite terminology.

The Civil Rights Law could certainly stand some improvement in this respect.

The billboard on Hylan Blvd. may by a hair's breadth escape being a violation of the law, but its contents are certainly an insult to the living and dead on the honor roll.

Finance Co. 'Ghetto' Policies Once Used By Us, Says Realtor

Defender, Chicago, Ill.
Sat 9-21-46

NEW YORK — Discriminatory practices of a group of banks and insurance companies in restricting Negro and Spanish speaking persons to ghetto areas in the city, have been used in the past by two government agencies, according to a recent statement by Walter Miller, Harlem realtor.

Refusal to sell or finance mortgages on homes to Negroes in white neighborhoods was formerly practiced by the Home Owners Loan Corp. and the Federal Housing Administration, said Miller, who has one of the largest real estate businesses in Harlem. Thus, he pointed out, it was natural for the Mortgage Conference of New York, the Savings Bank Trust Company of New York and 37 members of the conference to restrict minorities in keeping with previous government policy.

After an exhaustive investigation was conducted by a Federal Grand Jury, the financial institutions recently were found guilty of violating the anti-trust laws, while the grand jury refused to indict them, it recommended civil action be instituted against them.

The Federal Department of Justice has initiated action expected to dissolve the association.

With the HOLC in the process of liquidation and the FHA changing its discriminatory practices since Wilson Wyatt, National Housing Expediter, took office, Miller foresaw a bettering in housing conditions of colored communities. With the smashing of the conference monopoly in fixing mortgage rates and controlling the lending

will be to make funds available for home purchases and construction by Negroes in all sections of the city.

The interim board of directors for the company include James Felt, Clifford Alexander, Hawthorne Lee, Walter Miller, Mabel Beaud'huy, Dr. George Daly, Dr. Joseph Gibson, Hope Stevens, William T. Andrews, Dr. Charles Petioni, Robert Braddicks, Joseph Davis, Thomas Dyett, Clarence King and John A. Johnson. The New York State Banking Department has already indicated that it will approve such a business.

The conditions in which Negroes and financing of money to build houses, he also asserted many new privately owned projects would result in slum areas all over the city.

The aim of this group, he said.

Housing Ban Held Legal in Ohio

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

COLUMBUS, Ohio—(ANP)—Upholding the legality of restrictive covenants, Common Pleas Judge John R. King on Jan. 21 ruled against a motion to dismiss the Old Folks' Home case on the grounds that such covenants are unlawful.

The case first attracted wide attention several months ago, when the Eastwood Protective Association had an injunction served to prevent the home from moving into property which it had purchased. 2-2-46

Immediately thereafter, interest in the case increased immeasurably after Judge Dana F. Reynolds cited E. R. Rockhold, president of the board of directors; Raymond Davis, vice president, and the corporation for contempt of court and fined each $100, of which $75 was suspended.

Following action by Judge King, attorneys for the corporation, and Frank C. Shearer, all of whom are donating their services, announced that the case will be heard in Common Pleas Court on its merits.

UNDERTAKER PROTESTS WHITE DOCTOR'S SEGREGATION

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Walter S Houston, prominent undertaker, 2817 Gilbert Ave., reported to the NAACP this week that he had been ordered into a separate colored waiting room in the offices of Dr. S. J. Betagole, 3514 Reading Rd. Sat 1-5-46

Judge Rules Against Motion To Dismiss Case

Atlanta, Ga
Daily World

Left Up To Higher Courts To Make Changes In Law

2-2-46

By BARBEE DURHAM ....

COLUMBUS, O.— (ANP)— The fight on restrictive covenants flared again in Columbus January 21 when Common Pleas Judge John R. King upheld the legality of such agreements when he ruled against a motion to dismiss the Old Folks Home case on the grounds that restrictive covenants are unlawful. Judge King's decision pointed out that common pleas court and the district court of appeals upheld restrictive covenants and that it is now up to a higher court to make any changes in the law.

This case first attracted wide attention when the Eastwood Protestive association tried to prevent the Old Folks home from moving into property which it had purchased by having an injunction served. 2-2-46

Following this, Columbus was startled when Judge Dana F. Reynolds cited two officials and the corporation, the Old Folks Home for contempt of court. E. R. Rockhold, president of the board of directors and Raymond Davis, vice-president, and the corporation were each fined $100, $75 of which was suspended.

HOME IS MOVED

According the Edmond B. Paxton and D. D. White, attorneys for the Old Folks home, and Atty Frank C. Shearer, assisting them all of whom are donating their services, the case will soon be heard in common pleas court on its merits. The Old Folks home moved to another address Sept. 7 and its former home has since been sold.

All Columbus is watching with keen interest the fight on restrictive covenants. Civic organizations are vitally interested and particularly the Vanguard league. In November the league sponsored a large mass meeting where Atty. Theodore M. Berry of Cincinnati and Atty. Frank C. Shearer, president of the Vanguard league spoke on the general topic of restrictive covenants. 2-2-46

The league has ordered for local distribution a large number of "Hemmed In", a pamphlet on restrictive covenants, published by The American Council on Race Relations, of Chicago. A new organization, composed of interested white persons principally has ordered 1000 of these booklets for distribution and is including with each one a mimeographed summation of the Columbus situation which its members have gotten together.

Ohio Awaits Restrictive Covenant Case Decision

Daily World
Held 4-10-46
Atlanta, Ga.

COLUMBUS, O.— (ANP)— All Columbus is waiting with bated breath for the decision of Judge Fred Wickham in the restrictive covenant case which was tried before him on April 1 and 2. The nation has its eyes on Columbus, which is in the midst of a fight to finish on the evil of covenants.

With one case already under its belt or on the way to the supreme court and four more coming up interest, backed up by the canguard league, is running high. A few days ago the Vanguard league staged a placard walk on restrictive covenants. Members carried placarded slogans such as "We fought in the same battles, why can't we live on the same streets?" A sound truck accompanied the group, playing the record, "Don't Fence Me In."

While waiting for the judge's decision, Atty. Frank C. Shearer, counsel in the Rev. L. L. Dickinson case, and who was assisted by Attorney D. D. White, points out that some rather peculiar things came out during the trial.

1. All Columbus common pleas judges disqualified themselves therefore the case was heard before a foreign judge, Fred Wickham, of Delaware, Ohio.

MANY ON HAND

2. A very large crowd of white and colored sympathizers was on hand both days. The white ministers were well represented.

3. Of the 28 parties to the covenant, action was brought against Rev. Dickinson in the names of six, four of whom signed the petition and only two of whom showed up in court.

4. The attorney for the covenanteers is a Columbus city councilman (local colored papers are not letting us forget that) and he was assisted by two other men, one of whom was a recent candidate for the office of prosecutor.

Hearing Held Before Judge Wickham Apr. 1-2

By BARBEE WILLIAM DURHAM

5. One of the two covenanteers has already listed his property with a colored realtor, has shown colored people through the house, has set a sale price, and had not withdrawn the offer at the time he was on the witness stand fighting to preserve the covenant. Another covenanteer, who did not show up in court, has done the same thing.

DENY COVENANT

6. The covenanteers stated that they never signed a covenant. Their property was conveyed, free of charge, to a title company and about a week later, this company conveyed the property back, with the covenants written into the deeds, free of charge.

Held 4-10-46

7. About an hour was spent trying to define the term Caucasian. According to standard dictionary, the World History, and an Ohio State university anthropologist, the term includes Hamites and Ethiopians because they inhabit the Caucus mountain area. Atty. Shearer states that this is a part of the record in the case.

8. Fred Perkins, one of the two who showed up in court, has invited Rev. Dickinson to his home and they seemed to get along quite well, according to Rev. Dickinson's testimony.

9. Rev. Dickinson has spent quite a bit of time in improving his property since living in its for several months.

It is expected that Judge Wickham will hand down his decision about April 10 or 15.

Ohio couple asks $1,000 from hotel for humiliation

Los Angeles, Calif.
Tribune

COLUMBUS, O. — Cosmo Morgan, senior in the Ohio State university pharmacy college, and his wife, Ruth, filed suit for $500 each last week against the swank Deshler-Wallick hotel here for ousting them because they are Negroes. Sat 5-4-46

Morgan, son of a Cleveland hair pomade manufacturer and a World War II veteran who served as an Army officer overseas, said he and his wife went to the Ionian Room at the hotel last February. They dined and danced a few times, he said, then the house detective came to their table, ordered them to refrain from further dancing, and told them to get out. The couple said they did not leave immediately, but thought it best to go after Columbus police were summoned.

Covenant Ruling Afro-American Awaited in Ohio

Baltimore, Md.

COLUMBUS, O. — The restrictive covenant case of the Rev. L. L. Dickinson which was tried here recently before Judge Fred Wickham, of Delaware, O., has created much interest while awaiting the judge's decision. 4.20.46

Frank C. Shearer, counsel in the case, pointed out, among other things, during the trial, the peculiar trend of mind of the alleged covenanteers, who denied having signed the petition.

Only 2 Appear in Court

Of the 28 parties to the covenant, action was brought against the Rev. Dickinson in the names of six, four of whom signed the petition, and only two of whom showed up in court.

The Vanguard League, which opposes restrictive covenants, recently staged a placard walk with such slogans as "We Fought in the Same Battles, Why Can't We Live on the Same Streets?"

Negroes can buy property but can't live on it

Los Angeles Calif
Tribune

COLUMBUS, O.—In a way, racially restrictive residential pacts are legal. In a way, they're not.

So, in effect, ruled Judge Fred Wickham of Franklin county common pleas court last week, declaring that existing covenants are illegal insofar as they bar Negroes from owning restricted property but legal for barring Negro residency. Sat 5-4-46

The ruling was handed down in the long-drawn out Columbus "covenant cases", in which the Rev. L. L. Dickerson is trying to maintain his residence and pastorate in a restricted area here.

Last month, Judge Wickham rescinded an order, previously granted the covenanters, which would have forced the Rev. Mr. Dickerson to vacate the property at once. Also, as precedent for refusing to grant a motion for dismissal, he cited Los Angeles' "Sugar Hill" case, in which covenants were ruled unconstitutional.

Checking White Against Black

Black Dispatch

There is not very much that happens, even when it happens to the other fellow, out of which one may not obtain profitable lessons. The Black Dispatch is always on the alert to make timely suggestions that will assist in reorienting the minds of black folk, who continually have it pounded into their heads that dark people are fundamentally different from white folk. This faulty information has been circulated so long a large percentage of white and black are impressed with this specious type of reasoning.

One of the worn out adages is that "white people are more united than black folk" and all sorts of observations and experiences are related to prove this point. White folk usually arise in Negro audiences to point correcting fingers at black folk, soberly announcing, "You people should get together." In fact, we have a number of times appeared before white officials who refused to adjust important matters, and announced the time they would attend to the matter would be "when all of you people are united in a point of view." Oklahoma City, Okla.

Negroes generally are impressed with the belief that there is something innately wrong with themselves, and something unusually virtuous about white people in the realm of neighborliness and social unity. They overlook entirely that the great difficulty under which black folk labor in America is an "environmental" rather than a "hereditary" something. Fundamentally, the difference between white and black folk in the present age is, that the Negro's opportunity to develop is cramped, while the white man's opportunities are boundless. This described situation of the two races would quite naturally point the two races in opposite directions. Opportunity breeds optimism and courage, while frustration and despair stems from the well of restriction.

The best way to prove that there is not much difference between white and black folk is to find and locate white people situated in the same restricted atmosphere, where black folk are constantly required to exist, and we believe the current political campaign supplies that opportunity. You will note there is only one man who may be elected governor, while there are nearly as we can guess about a dozen candidates for that office. Only eight men may be elected to congress while in the eight congressional districts there are we suppose nearly seventy-five wishful white aspirants, and so on throught the political scheme there are anywhere from ten to a score of white people who seek the same chance, when there is only one precious plum. Here we find a situation identical with, and comparable to the life of the average Negro. Sat. 7-6-46

The result is that we find a wild scramble and scuffle among white folk existing before our eyes disgusting to anyone who loves peace and comity. We stood Saturday night and heard one white man, in discussing another, charge him with thievery, perjury and all types of corruption. Candidates for various offices tell us blandly terrible tales about the utter disrepute, and even hint at private matters concerning the lives of their opponents, fitting them for the penitentiary rather than for public office. Truly the political arena is the place where we may study the reactions of white people when forced into a restricted and curbed atmosphere, where frustration dangles before their eyes. There is not much unity among that crowd, and certainly no more than one would find among ambitious black people.

Candidates scatter one type of handbill down in the Negro section and an entirely different one in white neighborhoods. One handbill is expected to generate hate of the blacks in white neighborhoods and hatred of white in the black section. There is nothing anywhere on earth equaling the endeavor of white candidates for office to spread jealousy, antagonism and bitterness against their opponents, all of whom are white at the present moment, right here in Oklahoma. It causes us to wonder the sort of terror complex white folk would develop were they forced continously to abide in second-class citizenship and partake of the crumbs of existence upon which Negroes subsist.

Negroes are so often charged with being negative rather than positive forces, to the extent that we even tell tales proving that white folk build up where Negroes tear down. We recall an amusing tale told about the propensity of contractors to hire Negroes when they are going to tear down a building, but the sudden change to white personnel when construction begins. Too many Negroes are impressed with the idea that this is a broad and comprehensive graphing of white and black life. Sat 7-6-46

But what are we to do in a campaign such as is just closing when we find white men, who lay claim to statesmanship of sufficient breadth to be governor, who present the populace with nothing but negative programs. We recall one candidate for governor in this campaign who when he made his opening address regailed his audience with a long speech in which he told citizens what he was not going to do. The campaign is ending without this particular candidate being very clear regarding what he actually will do if elevated to the governor's chair.

Two other candidates have campaigned all over Oklahoma telling citizens who they will put out of office if elected. No effort has been made to tell the people who they will put in office, but we know with certainty that if two of the gubernatorial aspirants land in the governor's cair, their major promise to to impeach the state superintendent of public instruction. If one will analyze the campaign speeches that have rent Oklahoma air during the past ninety days, he will discover that our "quality" white folk, in the political arena, have been just about as negative in their discussions as our "quality" black folk when they make a dive for such political plums as the presidency of Langston university or the superintendency at Taft or Boley.

We were in Mississippi and Alabama last week and read the papers down that way, telling about the political aspirations of white folk. We read one paper when we arrived in Memphis telling about offensive odors exuding from Senator Bilbo's body, and he was likened to a billy-goat. Senator Bilbo in turn is rushing through the bullrushes shouting unseemly charges against the personal lives of his opponents. Ordinarily such filth and gutter-sniping would be extant among Negroes in their struggle for small jobs, but here we find men who offer themselves for membership in the greatest deliberative body on earth, emersing themselves in the stench of the sewer; here we find the utter absence of good fellowship and unity so often ascribed to white people and the white world. Sat. 7-6-46

In this connection, however, and while we are on this subject, it would be well to suggest that world strife today evidences the lack of white unity. The English and American soldiers who march in the streets of Berlin today represent a fundamental breach in white thinking. When Churchill's orders caused the massacre of Greeks in the streets of Athens, and when war looms because of the spread of state socialism into capitalistic areas of the world, all of this identifies disunity among white nations.

Environment has a great deal to do with the way human beings act. Dark people everywhere are able to effect sectional hegemony when opportunity is unrestricted. Black people here in America are separated and fail to unite because of worries abount fundamental questions, such as food, clothing and shelter. Even the lower animals know enough to fight about such essentials. But our white folk do not wait for descent to such primal levels before they disintegrate. Just let them know they are likely not to be able to step from cattle baron to the governorship, or from one colossal opportunity to another, and overnight we hear a vicious roar, unequalled in the forests, and certainly not to be located in the average Negro community.

59 1946

Pennsylvania

Six Negro Athletes of N. Y. U. Sue Hotel In Philadelphia, Charging Exclusion

New York Times 6-13-46

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, June 12—Six Negro members of the New York University track team filed suit against the Benjamin Franklin Hotel today on charges that the management refused them accommodations when they arrived for the Penn Relays on April 26.

A magistrate issued warrants for former Mayor W. Freeland Kendrick, president of the Benjamin Franklin Corporation; Allan J. Levin, secretary, and Michael T. McGarry, an employe, in an action brought by Maurice Callender of 270 Convent Avenue, New York, a member of the N. Y. U. team. Five team-mates who joined him in the suit are Homer Gillis, Milford Parker, Alexander Jordan, Frank Dixon and Stanton Callender.

Mr. Callender complained that rooms were refused him and his five team-mates despite the fact that Saul Cohen, manager of the track team, received a letter of confirmation from the hotel management assuring him that reservations had been made for the entire squad. When the squad arrived here the hotel agreed to take care of the white members of the team, but refused to accept the Negroes, Mr. Callender charged.

His action is based on the Pennsylvania Civil Rights Act, passed in 1935, which stipulates that there shall be "full and equal accommodations, facilities and privileges of any hotel, restaurant, theatre or concern hall for all persons." 6-13-46 ft.

The six Negro youths contended that, because they had to look for last-minute accommodations, they could not do their best in the meet at the University of Pennsylvania the next day. Frank Dixon, one of the group, was intercollegiate mile champion before he entered the Army three years ago.

Violation of the civil rights act is punishable by a fine of $100 to $500, or imprisonment for thirty to ninety days, or both. A hearing of the case is scheduled for noon Friday. Hotel officials were not available for comment.

59 1946

South Carolina

CIO Conference Moved Over Racial Question

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 30.—(AP)—Fitzhugh L. Smith, manager of the Wade Hampton Hotel here, today described as "substantially correct" a news story which claimed that a southern staff conference of the CIO textile Workers Union of America would not be held in the hotel because it would take no Negro guests.

The story appeared under a Columbia date line in the Charleston News and Courier. The conference was scheduled for June 10-11. 5-31-46

The News and Courier's story said that "hotel officials said Walter Truman, state head of the TWUA, cancelled a scheduled banquet and meetings when advised that the hotel would adhere to its policy of not admitting Negro guests. 7-1.

Memphis Hotel Bars Maid of "Pickup Girl"

The afro american
Baltimore, Md.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—When Edna Reis Merin, member of the cast of "Pickup Girl," arrived here recently with the show, she was denied hotel reservations because she was accompanied by her colored nursemaid who looks after her baby. 1-26-46

Miss Merin discovered that local hotels do not take colored personnel as guests or to remain overnight as servants of guests.

Stranded in her car on the streets with baby and nurse, the actress almost missed the first four performances in the search for a place to house child and maid. The auditorium manager finally found private arrangements.

59 1946

Tennessee

The Chicago Defender

KNOXVILLE PROPERTY BAN ILLEGAL, DIRECTOR SAYS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (ANP) — Oscar M. Tate, law director, last week, told white residents that the city council cannot prohibit minorities from purchasing property in any section of the city.

Baltimore, Md. East.

The Westwood Issue

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I heartily endorse your editorial appearing February 11 publishing your views on the Westwood problem. You have taken a fair and impartial stand for justice and right for this little group of unfortunate citizens of Westwood. Such expressions as yours can come only from master minds, from individuals who dare not allow race prejudice to overshadow the worth of true citizenship.

Eighty years ago a few colored people began settling in Westwood, off there to themselves, where they thought the white people wanted them. They were, and are, satisfied out there, even though they have borne many hardships and have made almost unbelievable sacrifices in their efforts to acquire homes in which to live. Those who are fostering the ousting of these Negro citizens with disregard for their civic rights are guilty of the blackest crime known to the city of Richmond for many years. Richmond's legal judgment and sense of justice are on trial. The outcome will determine for colored people the world over whether it is worth while for colored people to be law-abiding citizens.

Did not Adolf Hitler oust the Jews, run them from their homes and confiscate their property and money? Did not Richmond send her sons across the ocean to destroy him for that and other reasons? If the answer to these questions is yes, it is a coal-black mark on Richmond's white garment to allow herself, in less than 10 months, to be found perpetrating the same Hitleristic crimes. Richmond will be weighed; will she be found wanting?

WILLIAM D. STAFFORD.
Richmond.

The Editorial on Westwood

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Accept my profound gratitude for your excellent editorial on the Westwood Negro situation. I am in hearty accord with your ideas and shall give my earnest support toward their adoption.

LELAND H. WATERS,
Superintendent City Missions,
Baptist Council of Richmond.
Richmond.

An Undemocratic Proposal

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I am sure that many of the fair-minded people of Richmond are much pleased at your editorial of February 11 on the Westwood project. It shows that The Times-Dispatch is not biased, but stands for fairness and justice to all, irrespective of race or financial status.

This is America, where one is supposed to do as he pleases as long as he does not trespass on another's rights. When are we, who are supposed to have made the world safe for democracy, going to begin to clean up at home? A good way to start is to give everyone a fair break. And those who are pushing the Westwood project realize, if they have any conscience, that it is a very undemocratic proposal.

HENRY C. TERRY, JR.
Richmond.

Human Rights and Justice

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

You struck a strong and staunch blow for human rights and equal justice in your editorial yesterday morning [February 11] on the Westwood issue. I have followed the development of this controversy since its beginning and have felt deeply that Richmond must not permit this perfectly obvious injustice to be done to the Negro residents of Westwood.

Much has been said and written on the subject, but I am convinced that your forthright and unequivocal stand will do more to settle the issue right than anything that has been done so far. Please accept my sincere appreciation and commendation for the viewpoint you expressed in your editorial.

EDWIN S. SHEPPE,
Minister,
Boulevard Methodist Church.
Richmond.

Grateful for an Editorial

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Thank you for your editorial, "Unfair and Inexcusable," published in today's (February 11) Times-Dispatch.

RUTH H. McGUINN.
Richmond.

Unfair and Inexcusable

THE same old proposal to oust the honest, law-abiding Negroes from their homes in Westwood, on the specious plea that this is necessary to establish a park in that area, is set for a hearing on Thursday night before the Utilities Committee of Council. The new ordinance is somewhat less raw than the one which was defeated last Spring, but it is basically just as objectionable.

Instead of throwing all the 300-odd persons out of their Westwood homes within a two-year period, and without making any provision for them elsewhere, as was proposed last year, the pending paper allows the colored owners of the Westwood dwellings to live in them throughout the lives of themselves and their wives or husbands. After that, the 130-acre tract will be developed as a municipal park. If the owners are unwilling to accept the prices offered by the city, the property will be acquired by condemnation.

There are several objections to this plan. In the first place, the argument that this tract is essential for a city park is nonsense. The City Planning Board has specifically opposed this proposal, and has said that much better property suitable for park purposes is available farther westward.

In the second place, these hard-working, respectable colored people moved to Westwood some 80 years ago, long before the white persons who now object to them built residences in that area. They established their church, which is still a part of the settlement. Several generations have grown up at Westwood, and have been well known to many leading white citizens of Richmond as assets to the community. The new proposal does allow the Negroes to keep their church, as long as there is a sufficient number left to use it, and the city promises to maintain the burying ground in the churchyard. But there is nothing to prevent abandonment of the cemetery by a future Council.

Another point is that with housing conditions as impossible as they are in Richmond today, the ousted Negroes will have great difficulty finding any place to live. Be it noted that once the parents of a given family die, the children have to move out. Where will they go?

A fourth objection: Passage of the ordinance will definitely doom all chances for the installation of sanitary sewers and water mains in Westwood, and during the estimated 20 to 25 years before the city develops it as a park, a constant menace to Richmond's health will flow from this condition. The City Health Department declared last Summer that all the wells in Westwood are polluted, and recommended prompt installation of running water and sewers. The proposal was approved by Common Council, but was rejected by the Board of Aldermen. There the matter rests today. Not only the colored people but the white people in that part of the city are threatened by this situation.

Instead of trying to throw these substantial colored citizens out of the homes which they have occupied for generations, Council ought to give them the utilities to which they are entitled. Instead of seizing their property for a park which the city doesn't need, and which it can't afford, Council should abandon this brutal program. If white Richmonders who live in that part of town don't like their neighbors, they should have thought of this before, and established their homes elsewhere. It would be unbelievably unfair, and certainly not in the Richmond tradition, to oust the oldest settlers from the Westwood section, for the benefit of some who moved in 60 or 70 years later. The whole plan should be voted down.

Homes Broken In Protest Against Colored Tenants

(See Editorial, Page 6)

NORFOLK—Occupancy by colored tenants of two apartments in the 900 block of Corprew avenue in the Brambleton section of the city, has provoked a mild reign of terror by unidentified persons, it was revealed this week.

The two-family apartment at 922 Park avenue directly in front of the Ballentine Home for the Aged, is owned by a well known colored business man, while the properties on Corprew avenue numbered 1512 and 1514 were occupied exclusively by white tenants until February 1945. Both are being handled by Maurice E. Collette, real estate broker.

At least four colored families have occupied the Park avenue apartments within a period of several weeks, but all have moved out after unidentified persons broke out the window panes with barrages of bricks, stones and bits of scrap iron. The attacks which occurred between March 23 and April 7, were usually committed at night with a total of 12 windows being smashed on the night of April 12 alone.

The dwellings have since been repaired and the windows secured with heavy screen wire as a measure of protection.

POLICE MAKING INVESTIGATION

The matter has been brought to the attention of the Norfolk Police Division, through Detective Sergeant H. N. Shapiro, head of the Crime Prevention Bureau, and Captain H. L. Hutchinson of the Second Precinct police station and an investigation is currently under way.

In addition, letters requesting more police protection for the area have been sent to Acting City Manager Henry H. George, 3rd, and Chief Police John F. Wood.

The premises 922 Park avenue, as well as other properties in the adjoining block north of Corprew avenue, have heretofore had white occupants. Colored tenants moved in when it became impossible for them to find living accommodations elsewhere.

Subsequently other houses in the block and other blocks on Corprew avenue and Park avenue, between Corprew and Shipp avenues, have been occupied by colored tenants. A few white families are still interspersed between colored families in the blocks mentioned on Corprew avenue.

So serious has the situation become that the assistance of the Norfolk office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been invoked. But whether or not this agency can intervene was purely a matter of speculation, under the circumstances.

Unlike similar situations in other cities, the matter of restrictive property covenants is not involved here.

RUMORS RAMPANT

Meanwhile, rumors have been rampant about the possible effect of the mild influx of colored residents into the area. One of these was to the effect that open threats had been made to burn a house in the 1500 block of Corprew avenue now occupied by colored tenants.

Still another report which gained considerable headway, stated that a white fish peddler told a colored resident of Shipp street that the Ku Klux Kan movement was being revived by the white residents of Sheldon avenue immediately back of the 900 block of Park avenue. None of the rumors, however, could be verified.

Negro Influx In Norfolk Blocked

Chicago, Ill. City Asked To Keep Section Lily-White

How Many Freedoms?

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

We, members of the Richmond District Agency Club of the Virginia Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, have read with great interest the various articles concerning the "Westwood Case." We feel that action toward ousting these people from this section is definitely undemocratic and does not foster the four freedoms for which we fought.

It is a known fact that the percentage of Negro home-owners is low; their property is not as well kept as the white. We know the reason; you know the reason—economic depression after receiving low wages and managing to save pennies to obtain these homes.

These people deserve freedom from fear. Citizens of Richmond, let us see that the citizens of Westwood get it.

N. D. HYMES, president.
G. E. CHRISTIAN, secretary.
Richmond District Agency Club.
Richmond.

BROADWAY IN VIRGINIA

The old saying, "Truth is stranger than fiction," was never truer than in the case of Miss Helen Carroll, white, of Arlington, Va., who was fined in the Virginia Court last week for renting a portion of her home to colored tenants.

For more than eight months, Broadway theatre audiences sat through the fictionalized version of this same story at the Cort Theatre where Canada Lee's "On Whitman Avenue" has just ended a successful run.

This play told the story of a young war veteran who, when unable to find a home in a Northern City, was befriended by young white liberals who rented him and his family a portion of their home.

But when the prejudiced neighbors discovered it there was the devil to pay; and all of the stark tragedy of racial hatred was unfolded until the colored family was forced to vacate.

That thousands of ...ington where the neighbors, with ... witnessed "On Whit... And to think that ... the connivance of the police, dug ... people who witnes... went away with the ... an antiquated law limiting the man Avenue" went ... sed in these words, ... number of people who could occu... an ugly picture, but ... feeling expressed ... only a play, it doesn't ... by one premises, in order to pun... in real life." Oh, no? ... Miss Carroll and force out the ... after all it's only a ... ish Miss Carroll and force out the after all it's only a ... colored tenants. This story came to life in Ar... really happen in re...

Sat. 6-22-46

NORFOLK, Va.—A move by whites of Norfolk to oust a Negro family from Brambleton, a white section here, spearheaded a drive this week to halt the shift of colored families to the eastern part of the city.

A large delegation of whites from Brambleton and Chesterfield Heights jammed the city council chambers last week to protest the influx of Negroes and to demand legal action to stop it.

The whole racial issue was aired at a political meeting last Monday at the John Goode School when a white man interrupted a speaker and warned, "If Ashe (Victor J. Ashe, Negro candidate for city council) is elected to the council, he may never live to reach the city hall."

Special Committee Named

The man identified himself as a "cousin of Mr. Byrd,' presumably referring to Virginia's Sen. Harry F. Byrd. He also said that Negroes in Norfolk were completely out of control.

Acting City Manager Henry George III has appointed a biracial seven-man committee to study the problem. Included on the committee are three Negroes, Dr. J. Q. A. Webb, Rev. R. H. Bowling, pastor of First Baptist Church; and Winston Douglass, principal of the Booker T. Washington High School.

Meanwhile, Negro groups in two meetings drafted a letter stating their opposition to segregated housing. They pointed out the difficulties colored families have finding suitable housing and transportation.

KKK Member Active

The mass meetings of the local NAACP and Negro Democratic club was followed by a large delegation at the city hall chambers where Negro spokesmen presented their side of the issue to council members.

Further complaints against Negroes were made before the council by a white delegation which included J. W. Halstead, reputed former Ku Klux Klan member; and Mrs. C. C. Sivills, civic leader.

According to reliable reports, Negroes question the outcome of the special committee's probe, although they do not express lack of confidence of its three Negro members.

The committee held its second meeting on Wednesday, and in view of the insistence of the leaders of the whites against Negroes living in Brambleton, it is felt that the whites will only accept willingly a solution which bars colored families from that section.

Tension Reported

Atlanta Daily World

High In Norfolk

Atlanta Ga.

NORFOLK, Va. — (ANP) — An outbreak between Negro and white residents is imminent in Norfolk unless sane minds and understanding hearts among community leaders in both races act in unity to avert trouble which may result from a combination of bad situations. The Brambleton issue is still a sore spot here. Fri. 7-3-46

White residents in Brambleton seem still determined to have that section set aside for white families only. White families clamoring for some agreement to bar Negro families from Brambleton have by their action increased bad feeling and friction between certain elements of the whites and Negroes in the city.

As a result of a well directed campaign of hate against Negro citizens, an open conflict is likely to occur any day between whites and Negroes. It is believed that this hate campaign is the reason for the wanton attack on Wallace Booth, 18-year-old Negro youth, on Thursday morning last week as he passed through the white section on his way to school.

BEATEN WITH HOSE

A group of white boys called to Booth as he passed, according to reports, but he paid no attention to them. The white boys then ran and caught him and beat him with a rubber hose. He was manhandled so savagely that he had to be taken to the Community hospital where his condition was pronounced "critical" Thursday afternoon.

The seven-man committee selected by the city council to make some recommendations on the Brambleton issue has not made any satisfactory adjustment so far as the complaining whites are concerned. They petitioned the council to find some way to set aside Brambleton as a 'lily white" section, but neither the council nor the committee had any legal basis for such action. Fri. 7-3-46

Residential segregation of the races in cities was nullified as early as 1917 by the United States Supreme Court in the Louisville case. The proper approach to the problem is simple. The city police should protect the Negro family living on Park Ave., from any molestation by disorderly and law breaking whites.

59 - 1946

Washington

Woman unionist wins Jim Crow suit

Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.

SEATTLE—Mrs. Inez Malone, of this city, who charged that the Bellingham hotel here refused her a room last year when she was delegate from the Marine Cook and Stewards Union auxiliary to the state CIO convention, announced this week that she had won her case against the corporation owning the hotel.

Awarded $1 and costs, Mrs. Malone said she had not undertaken the suit for financial settlement but to fight discrimination generally. Her fight had the backing of several unions. An odd slant was given to the case by the fact that Frank Bayley, Jr., attorney for the corporation, is a leading member of the Washington state fair employment practices commission. Sat. 11-30-46